# The New-York Times.

VOL. XIII—NO. 3932. NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, MAY 1, 1864. PRICE FOUR CENTS


## NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Advices to April 17 by the Europa at Halifax.

The Pirate Florida in a Spanish Port.

Her Application for Coal at a Portuguese Port Refused.

The Iron-Clad Rams Alleged to Have Been Ordered by the Pasha of Egypt.

DEPARTURE OF MAXIMILIAN FROM MIRAMAR.

The Swiss Council Enforces the Decree of Expulsion Against Garibaldi.

The Conference to Assemble in London April 20.

### COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL.

HALIFAX, Friday, April 30.

The Royal Mail steamship *Europa*, from Liverpool 16th, via Queenstown 17th inst., arrived here at 3 o'clock this morning.

Her advices are three days later.

The *Europa* had a rough passage. She passed on the 18th the steamship *City of Washington*, and on the 20th the *Persia*, bound East.

The *Europa* has 60 passengers for Halifax and 60 for Boston.

The steamer *Cimpros*, from New-York, arrived at Queenstown on the 15th.

The steamer *Kenilton*, from Portland, arrived at Londonderry on the 15th.

The steamship *Edinburgh* would leave Liverpool on the 16th for New-York.

The Royal Mail steamship *China*, from New-York, arrived at Queenstown on the 16th.

The crew of the ship *Hiawatha*, abandoned at sea, are safe.

It is stated that the pirate *Florida* was in a Spanish port.

She had been refused coal at a Portuguese port.

An Alexandria letter to the *Times* positively affirms that the late Viceroy of Egypt ordered the construction of Laird's rams.

ENGLAND.

The London *Observer* says that it is generally believed that Lord CLARENDON has succeeded in re-establishing a complete understanding between Great Britain and France, to which Russia will probably adhere.

GARIBALDI had a magnificent reception at the Crystal Palace yesterday. A flag of Italy was presented to him, bearing the words "Rome and Venice," as was also a sword, the latter from Italians of London.

It was rumored that negotiations were going on for the sale of the *Great Eastern* to the French Government.

THE MEXICAN QUESTION.

MOVEMENTS OF MAXIMILIAN.

The Emperor and Empress of Mexico quitted Miramar on the afternoon of the 14th April, amidst enthusiastic cheers and salutes from the batteries.

They were expected at Rome on the 19th, and would set out for Mexico on the following day.

THE DANISH WAR.

MILITARY OPERATIONS.

At Duppel the Prussians had connected their intrenchments with a new parallel, and without look The cannonading goes on night and day.

Danish ships are reported to be making captures at the mouth of the Elbe.

The Danes have announced the blockade of Dantzic and Pillau from the 19th.

THE CONFERENCE.

The Conference holds its first meeting in London on the 20th.

The German Diet sends a representative.

The London *Observer* says the Conference will either put an end to the Dano-German war altogether, or its influence will extend far beyond its present limit.

SWITZERLAND.

The Swiss Federal Council has resolved to put in force the decree of expulsion against Mazzini, on the ground that he has several times falsely abused the right of hospitality.

Commercial.

In the Liverpool market cotton was buoyant and 1/4d.@1/8d. higher on the week for Americans, and 1/8d.@1d. higher for Egyptian, while in Sea Islds there was only a slight improvement. the market closing quiet and steady. Sales of the week 65,000 bales, and of Friday, 7,000 bales. Middling Orleans, 27d.

Breadstuffs very dull and weak; wheat still declining.

Provisions dull and tending downward.

Consols on Friday closed at 91 1/4@91 3/4.

Bullion in Bank decreased £26,000.

THE LATEST NEWS.

LIVERPOOL, Saturday, April 16—P. M.

The Bank of England, to-day, raised its discount rate to 7 per cent. The markets are depressed in consequence.

Cotton quiet and unchanged. Sales to-day 8,000 bales.

Breadstuffs quiet and easier, but rates unchanged.

Provisions dull and unchanged.

The Bank of Prussia reduced the rate of discount on the 15th inst.

LONDON, Saturday, April 16—P. M.

Consols for money, 91 1/4@91 3/4. Illinois Central Shares 15c.@13c. discount. Erie 37@40.

LONDON, Sunday, April 17.

The markets yesterday were firmer. Although some inconveniences may be felt in mercantile classes, by the advancement in the bank rate of discount, the drain on precious metals will probably be arrested and a check given to the mania for speculation. The discount houses will allow five per cent. for money at call, five and a half per cent with seven days' notice, and six per cent. with fourteen days' notice. The rate of discount on Saturday in open market was 7 7/8 @ 8 per cent.

The Europa for Boston.

HALIFAX, Saturday, April 30.

The steamship *Europa* sailed at 4 P. M. to-day for Boston, where she will be due early on Monday morning.

The Nova Scotia Outward Bound.

PORTLAND, Me., Saturday, April 30.

The steamship *Nova Scotian* sailed for Liverpool at 5 o'clock this evening.

FROM MEXICO.

The French Reported Retiring from Mexico.

*From the New-Orleans Era, April 23.*

The U. S. transport steamship *St. Mary*, Capt. JOHN E. HARDUM, from Brazos Santiago April 16, via Pass Cavallo April 20, arrived last evening.

We are indebted to Purser COLBY for a Brownsville Journal of the 10th inst., from which we take the following important item:

Advices from Mexico are to the effect that the French are retreating from the City of Mexico. Nothing else of importance.

## DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA

Particulars of the Capture of Plymouth—Capt. Flusser's Funeral—Miscellaneous.

NEWBERN, N. C., Sunday, April 24—P. M.

The capture of Plymouth, including Gen. WESSELLS and his command, by the rebels, is confirmed.

Nothing is known of the movements of the rebels here. It is reported they have gone to Virginia.

Should the rebels attack Little Washington or Newbern their punishment will be fearful.

The proceedings of the rebels at Plymouth will not compensate them for the severe loss they sustained.

From all accounts, Gen. WESSELLS and his little band of fifteen hundred veterans fought like heroes for four days and nights, leaving the rebels dead in heaps in every street, which they admit will number seventeen hundred.

We hear at this point all kinds of reports in regard to the rebel ram on the Neuse River, above this city.

Details of the Surrender.

The Newbern *Times*, of the 27th, states that up to Wednesday the rebels had not made their appearance in that vicinity—and the general impression there was that PICKETT's Division had been recalled to Virginia. Gen. PAGE has been very busy in strengthening the fortifications and clearing the decks for action. The *Times* contains the following late particulars of the siege and capture of Plymouth:

The first attack was made on Fort Gray, which was situated about one mile from town on the Roanoke River. The rebel battery, which commanded this fort, it is said, was planted on Polk's Island, about a half mile distant. On Wednesday morning the rebels prepared to storm our works in Plymouth. They accordingly massed their forces, and precipitated them upon Fort Wessels, Battery Worth, Fort Gray and Fort Williams. These places were taken in detail, after several repulses, and were finally captured.

But even then, it is said, that Gen. WESSELLS still held out and fought the rebels in the streets of Plymouth! throwing up rifle-pits for the protection of his men, and was only overpowered by sheer force of numbers, being nearly twenty rebels to one Federal soldier. It is also said Gen. WESSELLS pulled off his coat, and went into the work himself, with the most indomitable will and energy, throwing hand-grenades.

On the surrender of the place the colored soldiers met a horrid fate. Nothing definite can be learned for the moment. Most of the negroes we regret to hear are said to have been massacred. The conduct of the rebel soldiery or their officers, or both, are said to have been barbarous in the extreme, and that they even went so far as to threaten personal violence to the gallant old soldier who had command, for so nobly punishing them.

It is reported that the rebel loss was between 1,600 and 2,000 killed and wounded, while our loss was comparatively small. All honor to the heroes of Plymouth. The sword, sash and belt presented to Gen. WESSELLS, by his veteran brigade, were not captured. They were deposited by him with Gen. PAGE for safe keeping, and are safe here in Newbern. Some twenty colored soldiers, rescued at Plymouth, escaped from there at the time of the surrender, and reached here on Sunday morning.

The following members of Company E, Second North Carolina Union Volunteers, also escaped from the enemy at the surrender of Plymouth, and have reached our lines safely, viz.: Jesse HOGGARD, Nathaniel P. OVERTON, Mitchell HOWARD and Marcus CUNIFORD.

The "ram" still lays in Roanoke River, prepared to ram anything that attempts to enter the river. We venture to predict that the ram will not be there long. Most of the citizens have left Plymouth for Roanoke Island.

Capt. Flusser's Funeral.

On Saturday last, says the *Times* of the 27th, solemn funeral services were held in Newbern on the remains of Capt. FLUSSER. At 12 o'clock all licensed traders closed their places of business, and united in a tribute of respect to one whose memory will ever be green in the hearts of his associates.

A procession was formed at the Navy Hospital, composed of an escort comprising detachments from the Seventeenth Massachusetts Infantry, and the Second Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, with the Artillery Band, the whole being under command of Major S. C. OLIVER. Directly following the escort came the hearse, sailors, officers of the navy, and of the army. Nearly every officer whose duties would permit was present.

Attending the remains of Capt. FLUSSER as pall-bearers, were Capt. JOSELIN GRAVES, and Commander DAVENPORT, of the navy, and Cols. STEWARD, ASCOT, and Brigadier-Gen. PARKER, of the army. The mournful cortege moved from the Navy Hospital, at 12 M., passing from East, Front and Pollock streets, to the Episcopal Church, where services were held, and a sermon appropriate for the occasion, preached by Captain ROUSE.

After the services at the church, the procession reformed and moved through Pollock, Middle, Broad and George streets to the army and navy burying ground, where the remains were deposited in the narrow house appointed for all the living.

Miscellaneous.

The same paper says:

On Friday last, a large rebel force appeared in front of Little Washington, as we learn, and made a display of their handsome graybacks. Their lines were, however, suddenly deserted, and it is said, a vigorous stampede was commenced towards Richmond. Little Washington is situated on the Tar River, about midway between Plymouth and Newbern, and was closely, but unsuccessfully, besieged by the enemy a year ago this month, while occupied by Gen. FOSTER.

Capt. J. W. HOAG, Twelfth New-York Cavalry, proceeded with a small force a few days since from Newbern to Beaver Creek, a short distance from Kinston. Being beset by rebel cavalry, artillery and infantry to the number of fifteen hundred or more, he deployed his men as skirmishers and fought them, inflicting a loss of thirty or more killed upon his assailants. At one time Capt. HOAG was surrounded by four men and thrown to the ground, and in imminent danger of losing his life. He succeeded in accomplishing the object of his expedition, and returned to camp losing but four men, and they reported missing.

JOHN O. BUTLER, of Troop H, Capt. LEVIS, Twelfth New-York Cavalry, accidentally shot himself on the 20th inst., at Rocky Run.

Capt. J. W. DERBY, who has for five months been at the head of the Police Department in the Newbern District, is now relieved, and ordered to Fortress Monroe.

## OPERATIONS ON THE FLORIDA COAST.

Salt Works near St. Andrew's Sound Destroyed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Saturday, April 30.

The Navy Department has received a communication from Rear-Admiral BAILEY, commanding the East Gulf Blockading Squadron, giving the details of two expeditions in the vicinity of St. Andrew's Sound, Fla., under the direction of Acting Volunteer Lieut. WM. E. BROWNE. The first consisted of eight refugees, in a dug-out canoe, who ascended Watapoo River some twenty miles, to White Bluff, and there destroyed 9,000 bushels of salt, brought away some sacks, and captured a barge 30 feet long, 11 feet beam and 3 feet deep, which he is fitting up with howitzers for further operations. Twenty-three refugees were brought off.

The other expedition consisted of two men in boats of the *Restless*, who proceeded up East Bay. They succeeded in destroying two Government saltworks, with 300 bushels of salt.

There are five companies of rebel cavalry in the vicinity to guard these works, who rebuild them as fast as they are destroyed.

From Memphis.

REFUGEES AT CAIRO, ETC.

CAIRO, Friday, April 29.

Steamers from White River and Helena have brought 900 bales of cotton to Memphis. The Memphis market was active on the 27th, with a light stock, at 60c.@72c.

Nearly three hundred refugees from Arkansas, Georgia and Alabama, have arrived here, and present a most pitiable appearance.

The steamer *Alice Dean* has passed here, with 800 bales of cotton for Cincinnati.

Skirmishing in Kentucky—The Rebels Beaten.

CINCINNATI, Saturday, April 30.

A detachment of the Forty-fifth Kentucky, of Hobson's division, under Capt. ADAMS, attacked the rebels in Breat Hill County, Ky., killed four and captured thirteen men and twenty-four horses.

ADAMS then pushed forward and defeated EVERETT's command, killing two of his officers and scattering their forces.

## DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Arrival of the Tacoe, the Columbia and the Merrimack.

A Battle Reported to be Imminent on the Red River.

The Rumored Capture of Shreveport by Gen. Steele Repeated.

He is Said to be Throwing Up Fortifications.

A Call for a Meeting to Appoint Delegates to a Union State Convention.

The *Tacoe*, from New-Orleans, April 21, the *Columbia*, from the same port, April 23, via Havana, and the *Merrimac*, from New-Orleans direct, April 24, arrived at this port yesterday afternoon. We are indebted to the officers of the respective steamers for the prompt delivery of our news packages.

Among the passengers in the *Merrimac* is Gen. ANDREWS, also a number of other officers, and 230 sick and wounded soldiers. Gen. WEITZEL is a passenger in the *Columbia*.

The reports previously received via Cairo, of skirmishing at Grand Ecore, and the probable imminence of a battle, are repeated by these arrivals, as are the rumors regarding the occupation of Shreveport by Gen. STEELE, who is said to be intrenching himself at that place.

Passengers from the Red River, state that an impression prevails that the rebels will do all in their power to avoid a general engagement, though picket-firing might bring it on. Our army was not yet prepared for the advance, which must eventually take place, and there would not, probably, be a battle for a short time to come.

The steamer *Empire*, from Red River, brought down to New-Orleans Gen. LEE and Capt. NIMS, on business connected with the organization of their commands.

Seven hundred contrabands had been brought to New-Orleans from the Red River.

Major CONNELLY, First New-Hampshire Cavalry, had been badly injured by a kick from his horse, from which he would, however, recover. Lieut. W. SNOW, reported killed, is alive, but a prisoner.

Rebel prisoners and deserters who were present during the battle, state that the rebel loss at Pleasant Hill and Sabine Cross-roads, cannot fall far short of 7,000, and may reach 10,000, killed, wounded, and prisoners.

There was three and a half feet of water on Red River Falls, and six and a half feet from Alexandria down.

A call appears in the New-Orleans papers for a meeting to take measures for calling a State Convention to send delegates to the National Union Convention.

The steamer *John J. Roe*, at New-Orleans from St Louis, reported having taken wood on the 10th, at the mouth of St. Francis River with which the furnaces were filled, when a number of the sticks exploded, without doing any damage except to burn the firemen slightly.

On the 22d when at Fort Adams a man was seen in a perilous condition on a log in the river. The second mate, with a boat's crew, went to his assistance, when guerrillas opened a battery on the steamer, firing ten shots. Though not damaged, she had to run away. The boat's crew, when last seen, were making for the opposite shore from the fort, and it is supposed that they escaped.

Gen. STONE and others of the Staff of Gen. BANKS had arrived at Alexandria en route to New-Orleans.

A small Union fleet has gone up the Ouachita River.

A cavalry expedition has been sent out on the north bank of the Red River, near Alexandria, by Gen. GROVER.

The Eighteenth Indiana veterans had arrived at New-Orleans from Matagorda on route home on furlough.

W. J. SAVERY, his sister-in-law and a colored boy were blown to pieces on a small island near his estate, in the parish of Iberville, by a rebel torpedo, left on the island since last August, and out of which he was taking the powder.

Gen. RANSOM, wounded in the late battle, left New Orleans on the 24th for his home on a furlough.

Prize schooners *Madeline*, captured in Atchafalaya Bay, and the *Maria Allen*, captured off Vermilion River, arrived at New-Orleans.

Arrived from New-Orleans on the 19th instant, ship *Tamerlane*, from Portland.

The steamer *Cahawba*, from New-York, with 600 troops, arrived at New-Orleans on the 20th inst.

The *Maerimac*, from Portland, with 690 troops, arrived there on the 19th inst.

The *De Molay*, from Portland, with troops, also arrived on the 20th.

Cotton was held above the views of buyers. At New-Orleans the quotations ranged from 71c. to 73c. for ordinary, to 83c.@86c. Middling was scarce, and would bring 85c. Sugar was higher and quoted at 23 1/2c.@26c. Molasses 95c.@$1, with none offering, and no receipts.

The steamer *George Cromwell*, from New-York, had arrived at New-Orleans with $14,000 in specie and a large amount of treasury notes.

The steamer *Columbia*, with the mails and $20,000 in specie for Havana, and a full load of cotton for New-York, sailed on the 23d for those ports.

### FROM THE RED RIVER.

SKIRMISHING IN PROGRESS.

*From the New-Orleans Era, April 24.*

The steamer *Universe*, Capt. WATTS, arrived yesterday from Red River. She left Alexandria on the evening of the 19th inst., and reports all quiet there at that time.

Squads of guerrillas and rebel cavalry have made their appearance on Red River, between Grand Ecore and Alexandria, and fired on several boats, but no damage has resulted from their operations as yet. There has been no firing below Alexandria.

A battle is said to be imminent above Grand Ecore, between the opposing armies. The advance pickets of the Union army had come upon the rebel outposts, and brisk skirmishing ensued, and sharpshooting was going on almost constantly. A general engagement may be brought on at any moment, for which our troops are fully prepared and anxious. No one entertains the slightest doubt but that another Union victory will result.

A highly important rumor comes to us by the arrival of the *Universe*. At the mouth of Red River her officers communicated with the gunboats stationed at that point, and were informed that Gen. STEELE had reached and taken possession of Shreveport, and was throwing up fortifications.

If is quite possible that this news is true, as we have positive intelligence via Little Rock that on the 7th inst. his army had reached a point five miles south of Elkin's Ferry, on the Little Missouri River, and that he expected to join Gen. THAYER at Camden on the Ouachita, 35 miles from Elkin's Ferry, at once.

A glance at the map will show that both of these places are within less than one hundred miles by a direct line from Shreveport, and there was no force in STEELE's front of sufficient strength to materially obstruct his march on the latter place.

Should this gratifying piece of news prove true, and there is but little room for doubt, the rebel hopes of a successful issue of the present campaign in Western Louisiana will be most effectually squelched, and the Confederate Generals will be fortunate if they escape, with a portion of their army, from the toils of our State. It would be utterly impossible for them to remain for any length of time where they are between the armies of Gens. BANKS and STEELE, who await with the greatest impatience further intelligence from the front.

Among the passengers by the *Universe* was Lieut.-Col. HAVEN, A. Q. M.

She also brought down about 700 contrabands.

ADDITIONAL AND LATER.

Last evening the steamer *Empire Parish*, Capt. ANDERSON, arrived here, bringing a few hours later intelligence from the seat of war on Red River.

The friends of Lieut. W. K. SNOW, of NIM's Battery, will be pleased to learn that the report of his death was untrue. A letter has been received from him, in which he says that he is improving quite rapidly. He is the hands of the rebels.

Passengers by the *Empire Parish* say that the impression now prevails that the rebels will do all in their power to avoid a general engagement; and as our army is not yet prepared for the advance, which must eventually take place, there will not probably be another battle for a short time to come. It is possible, however, as mentioned above, that the picket firing may bring on a general engagement at any moment.

A gentleman who has been present during all the fighting, and who has had an opportunity of conversing with prisoners, deserters and others, whose opinions might throw light on the subject, says that the rebel loss in the battles of Pleasant Ridge and Sabine Cross-roads cannot fall below 7,000, and will probably reach 10,000 men, in killed, wounded and prisoners.

The officers of the *Empire Parish* report three and a half feet water on the falls at Alexandria, and six and a half in the channel from that city to the mouth of the river.

ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS OF THE GREAT BATTLES.

*From the New Orleans True Delta, April 2.*

We have had a long conversation with an officer of Gen. BANKS' staff, who arrived late last night on board the steamer *Laurel Hill*, direct from headquarters, with dispatches, and have learned from him some interesting particulars with regard to the present position and condition of our army. The headquarters of the Commanding General are at Grand Ecore, to which point it became necessary to fall back after the signal victory achieved on the 9th inst. at Pleasant Hill. This position has been strongly fortified with different lines of works, and could defy all assault from an army of three times our strength. The troops have entirely recovered from the fatigues and other demoralizing effects of hard marching, severe exposure and heavy fighting, and were never in better spirits. They are jubilant and only desire that the rebels should attack them in their present position; but of this there is no hope, for the position is too strong, even were the enemy not too much demoralized by defeat to make the attempt. The nearest point of the enemy's lines is beyond the battle-field of Pleasant Hill—at least our vedettes have not been able to meet with their pickets this side of that place. A flag of truce was sent out with a number of rebel surgeons, who had been left behind at Pleasant Hill with their wounded, when the rebels were driven back, which met a similar party from the other side bringing in our own surgeons who had fallen into their hands on the first day's fight in the same manner. The Confederate Major in charge of the truce party informed Capt. CARNEY, who accompanied the truce from the Union side, that Gen. GARDNER had been killed in the fight with the gunboats near Coushatta Chute, the top of his head having been blown off by a shell from one of the gunboats, and the body has been brought into camp. The statement was fully corroborated by prisoners taken during the gunboat fight. It has also been ascertained that Gen. MOUTON was actually slain, as at first reported.

The account furnished us by this officer, of the two battles, does not differ from those already published.

The enemy's losses are acknowledged by their own officers to have been very severe, and they acknowledge a defeat. The Confederate Gen. WALKER is reported to be mortally wounded. Our officers speak in terms of the highest praise of the bravery and desperate daring of the rebel troops. Their columns advanced on the charge across the open field at Pleasant Hill, and rushed boldly up to the very muzzles or our guns, regardless of the terrible hail of lead and iron that mowed great swaths in their ranks; but they were met with a courage, and coolness, and desperation equal to their own, for the sturdy defenders of the hill did not give an inch, and when the time came for them to charge back upon the staggering and broken lines of the enemy, they sprang forth like tigers, and the day was won. Gen. DICK TAYLOR, who was in command of the enemy, it is said, manœuvred in his usually expeditious, and displayed better generalship than on former occasions.

Gen. BANKS was in front in both battles, and at Pleasant Hill, it is said, he was found in the skirmish line sitting his horse as calmly as if on a review on Canal-street. As the bullets buzzed about his ears, his Aids implored him to fall back, saying: "General, this is no place for you;" but he stood unmoved, and when the battle raged highest, and where the contest was most deadly, after the onslaught had been made, he was seen flying from front to front, waving his hat and encouraging his veterans. The Generals on both sides, it appears, were all in front, as though they had set their lives upon the cast, and it is singular how they escaped the bullets of the sharpshooters.

The losses in killed and wounded are perhaps about equal, and will amount to some 2,000 or 3,000 on each side. The cavalry train, which was a very small one, and some 17 pieces of artillery were lost on the first day, but we retook several guns on the 8th, and are still ahead four pieces since the campaign commenced. The rebels did not get much stock, and had it been in its proper position during the battle, it would not have been lost. Ambulances and ammunition wagons must of course be taken on the field, but there is no necessity for a baggage train being so far in front, or in such a position as to block up the lines of retreat.

From all our informant says, we conclude that the army is in a splendid position, in the very best condition and spirits, and eager for the advance, which will not be long delayed. Red River is quite low at the falls just above Alexandria, but the Spring rise will soon come, and that rise will herald the fall of Shreveport. The *Laurel Hill* was not molested on the way down, and there is no enemy between New-Orleans and Pleasant Hill.

CONDITION OF THE WAR.

*Correspondence of the New-Orleans Times.*

ALEXANDRIA, Monday, April 18, 1864.

Everything remains quiet at Grand Ecore. The enemy are still around us, and we hope that when we are ready for a forward move again, they will not be wanting.

The river has been slowly falling for two or three days past, and there is but about four and one-half feet of water on the Rapids at present.

Our transports, however, experience but little trouble in crossing.

*The Mississippi River is rising very fast, and this we may expect a rise of the Red River.*

Several Confederate regiments are reported in the vicinity of this place, but the public may rest assured that there is ample preparation made for them.

We have several transports here on which we can carry conveniently one corps, several thousand Confederates to New-Orleans or elsewhere!

Lieut. SAUNDERSON, of Capt. CRESSON's Battery, (L. U. S.) is reported to have died of his wounds. Brig.-Gen. BOWEN, and others of Gen. BANKS' staff, arrived here to-day, and will proceed to New-Orleans. If anything of interest occurs in Western Louisiana, you shall be informed as speedily as possible.

A REPORTED CUT-OFF.

*From the True Delta.*

It is said the Confederates have made a cut-off, or canal, above Grand Ecore, by means of which they expect to empty Red River into Grand Lake. We are perfectly well aware of the fact that such a canal can very easily be made, for it has long been the desire of a certain class of property holders residing on the shores of this lake, in De Soto Parish, to have the channel of the river turned in that direction, and their opponents have frequently had to invoke the interference of the Police Jury to prevent such a misdirection of the waters of little Red. But this cannot effect the navigation of the river at Grand Ecore, for the water that flows into the lake at its head through the canal must come out into the river below by the way of Grand Bayou or Bayou Pierre, and the depth of the channel at the point where our transports and gunboats are now stationed, or at the falls at Alexandria, will not be affected by the cut-off. The vessels can do as they do now at the end of the river between the mouth of Grand Bayou, and thus close communication by water with Shreveport.

THE STATE CONVENTION.

*From the New-Orleans True Delta, April 22.*

This sovereign body, representing the people of the State, yesterday commenced work in earnest on the Constitution, and chosen the most important committees, and the one on the question of abolishing slavery was referred—as was not yet matured its deliberations, will there were other committees appointed on the Constitution, whose duties are little less important, and who reported yesterday.

The first committee to report was that to which was referred the articles of the Constitution known under the title of "General Provisions." The Committee took for their guide the same provisions adopted in previous constitutions, and made but few alterations, but those few were important, and will no doubt be fully discussed when they come up for adoption.

The two principal changes are the striking out of the clause in regard to duelling, which, under the old law, disfranchises the citizen who fights a duel or acts as second in one of these unnecessary and generally bloodless encounters.

The second important amendment—and it, too, will of course be dismissed at length—is one prohibiting banking corporations from issuing notes and circulating them as currency. But the banks retain all their other privileges, such as discounts, exchange and deposit. It is not proper that we should forestall the members of the convention, by giving expression to any opinion on either of these subjects at present.

The next committee was that to which was referred the subject of education. They made a very elaborate report, differing entirely from the provisions adopted in previous constitutions, and exhausting the entire matter, leaving but little for the Legislature to do. The report covers a wide field.

The Judiciary Committee, with that erudite lawyer, Judge HOWELL, at its head, also made a very lengthy, learned and comprehensive report, in which they alter nearly every article of the old Constitution. The most important change they recommend, and one which will give rise to the most discussion, and perhaps meet with some opposition, is the appointment of all judges, justices of the peace, sheriffs, coroners, clerks of courts, district attorneys and the attorney-general by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and providing that they shall hold their offices for life or during good behavior. We have already advocated this as the best means of securing an independent and able judiciary, and the method proposed by the committee strikes us as the very best that could be adopted, especially at this juncture of our affairs. The debate on this portion of the report will be interesting when it comes up, which will not be before next week.

A UNION STATE CONVENTION.

The following call appears in the *Era*:

"All the qualified voters, who desire the unconditional maintenance of the Union, the supremacy of the Constitution, and the complete suppression of the existing rebellion, with the cause thereof, by vigorous war and all apt and efficient means, are requested to assemble on Tuesday evening, the 26th inst., at 7 o'clock, to take measures for calling a State Convention to send delegates to the National Convention, which will assemble at Baltimore on the 7th of June next. (Signed)

Cuthbert Bullitt, George F. Bird, F. M. Cromot, E. H. Durell, T. L. Thorpe, Charles Claiborne, C. Rosselius, John W. Thomas, John M. W. Larkin, Roberdeau Baker, W. Jay Stoker, Jean P. Montreuil, Thomas C. Sims, M. D., Jerry Mewhinney, C. Edwards, E. Sobelin, David Pipes, John Bowman, Jr., Jerome Jones, P. Guy, Samuel Parnell, W. D. Meek, J. B. Bromley, Robert Morris, George Howes, John Kemper, J. E. Schmidt, L. C. Perret, Frank Preston, J. Miller, John Burk, S. Binnie, John L. Davies, C. W. Sinclair, George Cutler, Young Burk, Peter Norton, Jos. Brenner, W. H. Seymour, Lansing Reed, John Morton, Robert Vernon, Thomas Harding, G. H. Flagg, Thomas Bedsoy, H. S. Wilson, C. Becker, S. B. Ashley, Edward Lyons, W. H. Bell, C. H. L. Grunsberg, D. S. Dewese, J. A. Spellier, George Robinson, M. W. Murray, D. Murphy, A. Cassbet, Jno. L. Swift, T. M. Wells, George Ingram, John Stumpf, P. Harman, T. J. Edwards, John Henderson, M. D. Kavanagh, James Deane, C. W. Sands, George A. Footick, John Sullivan, R. L. Maurer, A. Baily, H. J. Heard, M. F. Bonnaud, J. B. Sarradet, Ernest J. Wenck, J. Stiner, R. Beauvais, J. H. Wilson, L. P. Normand."

OBITUARY.

*From the New-Orleans Picayune, April 24.*

The late Natchez *Courier* informs us of the demise of JAMES M. RAYMOND, in that city, on the eighty-fifth year of his age. Mr. RAYMOND was a native of Pennsylvania, and came South in the early part of the present century. Nearly fifty years ago he was engaged in commercial pursuits in this city with WARBURTON JACKSON, under the firm of JACKSON & RAYMOND. Subsequently, about the year 1821, he associated with the late GEN. RALEIGH in this city and in Natchez, doing an extensive cotton mercantile business for some years. Mr. RALEIGH retiring, a new association was formed with the late JOHN F. BYRNE, and, if memory serves, LEVIN R. MARSHALL was associated, under the firm of REYNOLDS, BYRNE & Co. The house attained great credit in this city, and with the branch and connection in Natchez, did an immense business, and maintained the highest credit for commercial integrity and honor.

After several years of great success in business, subsequent to the year 1832, Mr. REYNOLDS withdrew from business, retiring to his plantation near Natchez, where he had for the last quarter of a century devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. What results the war may have had on his affairs we cannot say. Of the old merchants of the first twenty-five years of this century in New-Orleans, there are now only few remaining. We observe on our streets, at intervals, GEN. SAMUEL WOMMOCK, CHARLES HARDEE, LAURENT MILLAUDON, GENERAL BOZEMAN DUNCAN, NICHOLAS C. HALE, Mr. MARSHALL, the former copartner of Mr. RAYMOND, is, we believe, still living.

RAID ON BAYOU PLAQUEMINE.

FOUR HUNDRED BALES OF COTTON DESTROYED.

The Plaquemine (Iberville Parish) *Gazette & Sentinel*, of Saturday, April 16, says:

"Information was received in this town on Thursday morning last that a force of Confederate cavalry, estimated at some twenty in number, and supposed to be a portion of Capt. JUMEL's command, stationed on the Grosse Tête, appeared in front of the village and park on the opposite side of the bayou, and a party being detached, crossed over and set fire to all the cotton at the latter place, while parties were at the same time engaged in burning that at Bethesda, at the village on their way up to this place. Nothing else but the cotton was injured, although there was a large amount of sugar and molasses at the village. There were some 400 bales of cotton destroyed, we are informed. Several of our citizens are heavy losers, but the greatest sufferers, we imagine, are the original owners, small planters, who had not disposed of their cotton, and who, at great labor and expense, had brought it from along distance, in the hope of returning with some of the necessaries of life, of which they had been a long time deprived."

THE FRIGATE WABASH.

The Attempt to Blow Her Up with a Torpedo—A Narrow Escape.

*Correspondence of the New-York Times.*

UNITED STATES NAVY WARDEN,
OFF CHARLESTON, Tuesday, April 19, 1864.

At 2 o'clock last night, while the *Wabash* was at anchor off Charleston Bar, the moon being but slightly obscured by clouds, a rebel torpedo-boat was distinctly seen about a hundred yards astern, approaching the ship's starboard quarter against wind and tide. The peculiar whale-backed shape of the object, with the small hatch quickness, was easily distinguished, as was the break of the water upon her sides, and left no doubt of the nature of the visitant. The alarm was instantly given, and the lieutenants of the lookouts at once fired at the enemy, while the broadside guns were being trained upon him. Finding himself discovered, the enemy, now abreast of the starboard gangway, some seventy yards distant, turned in his course and made straight for the ship. The cable, however, had now been slipped, and the word given to the Engineer to "go ahead." Rapid discharges from the nine-inch guns, with solid shot dashing into the water all around him, again caused him to steer for the counter, hoping to put into operation the same tactics that had been so successful in the case of the *Housatonic*, but the motion of the propeller hereabout kept him off, and he was soon to pass across the wake of the ship. At this point he was so near that those who had only come upon deck at the giving of the alarm saw him as plainly as to leave no doubt in their minds of his true character. The ship was kept under way in a circle, until her consorts, the *Canandaigua* and *Flag*, warned by her guns and rockets, came to her assistance. The people of the *Flag* saw nothing in the water; but the watch officers of the *Canandaigua* are confident that they saw and fired into that or another torpedo-boat, as well as the buoy of the *Wabash*'s anchor. The officer of the deck at the time of the occurrence was by no means novice in the matter of torpedoes, having taken part in the destruction, in February last, of the *Housatonic*.

Sale of Prize Steamers.

BOSTON, Saturday, April 30.

The prize steamers *Scotland* and *Mary Alice* were sold at auction to-day. The former brought $24,500 and the latter $31,000.

## THE MEXICAN QUESTION.

The Accession of Maximilian to the Throne.

Spirit of the French and English Press.

An Outburst of Exultation and Congratulation.

MORE ABOUT THE MEXICAN MOVE.

We collate from our files of French and English Journals the following extracts, to illustrate the manner in which the accession of MAXIMILIAN to the Mexican throne is received:

THE ENGLISH PRESS.

A NEW EMPIRE ADDED TO THE STATES OF THE WORLD.

*From the London Times, April 12.*

An Empire of Mexico has now been added to the States of the world. The new sovereign took his departure yesterday for the seat of his Government, and with his arrival will commence one of the most remarkable experiments in the history of our own times. It would be mere folly to disguise the extraordinary incidents of this unexampled event. One of the great Powers of the Old World has occupied with an armed force, and in spite of resolute opposition, the country and capital of an American State, has transformed its Government from a Republic to a Monarchy, has introduced a Prince from one of the reigning Houses of Europe, and sustained his act by the most energetic efforts during the interval of his rule. Proceedings like these require no slight apology; but we remain, so we have ever been, entirely of opinion that the apology is sufficient, and that the conduct of France, while perfectly justifiable in the eyes of Europe, is calculated to promote the interests of Mexico, and so ultimately to benefit the world.

The Republic of Mexico, as it was styled, was a mere shipwreck of its form. Originally a sometime colony, it had proved itself unfit for independence or self-government. The Mexicans were incapable of political organization, and the country became the prey of factions which, whatever might be their ostensible distinctions, were identical in their misconduct. There was one party representing originally much Conservatism as naturally attaches to the power of the Church; there was another representing an Opposition on principles of Liberalism. Probably other differences entered into the contest at one time; but all such controversies had long degenerated into a chronic civil war, in which the contending parties were no better than rival bands of brigands and cutthroats. It signified little which faction was in the ascendant. Of Government, in the ordinary sense of the word, there was none; property had no protection, and life and property no security. Nay more than Mexicans the only sufferers. The rights of International law were constantly violated by the fractious aliens living in the commonwealth of nations. Never before was a State so marked out by common consent as a nuisance or intervention as a benefit to civilized independent men. That was not the judgment of Europe merely, but of the statesmen of the United States. Greece and Mexico would probably have been, before this, absorbed in the United States had not the Union of those States been maintained. The interest of France herself in these proceedings is a different question, but it reduces no measure of her to suppose that what she has done has been but little for her own gain. A French statesman described the opprobrium of England in this matter as "execrable," but he was entirely mistaken. We have never disguised our estimate of the policy of France. We have said without affectation or reserve that, according to our views of such matters, her last gain was a bad one. Nobody could say that the House of Commons that the patronage of the Imperial Empire was a good return for our expenditure of millions of money and many lives. But we say also that, as such things have been usually accepted in France, the Mexican expedition has been not more costly, while it has been far more productive than dozens which have been undertaken or advocated. Former has certainly succeeded in something, if not in all it undertook. Spain has certainly failed in something, if not in all it undertook. Spain has certainly failed in something, if not in all it undertook. Spain has certainly failed

## LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

### THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

SIR: Your special dispatch from this city of the 19th instant contains the following paragraph:

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> "It is reported that Lieut.-Gen. GRANT has decided to make some detailed use of the Invalid Corps by putting a number of its best men on the rolls of the regiments to which they belong, and thus increasing the effective force in the field. The Invalid Corps will be kept together as a corps, and will be commanded by Brig.-Gen. HOWE, who will have his headquarters at Washington. Gen. HOWE will be relieved of the command of the Invalid Corps by Brig.-Gen. HAMILTON, who will be assigned to the command of the Department of Washington, now commanded by Gen. AUGUR."

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Supposing Gen. GRANT should turn in an order, detailing one man from each company in the Invalid Corps, by name, to join his regiment, would it be obeyed? Would not the Invalid Corps become a corps of "stragglers" and "deserters"? Would not the Commanding Officer of each regiment be compelled to send back to the Invalid Corps every man who was not able to march with his regiment? Would not the Invalid Corps become a corps of "stragglers" and "deserters"? Would not the Commanding Officer of each regiment be compelled to send back to the Invalid Corps every man who was not able to march with his regiment?

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### THE VETERAN RESERVE CORPS.

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# The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, MAY 1, 1864.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

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To Advertisers.

Advertisers in the TIMES are requested to bring in their notices as early as noon in the day as possible. If received after SIX o'clock, it will be impossible to classify them under their proper heads.


## NEWS OF THE DAY.

### THE REBELLION.

The steamers *Fanny*, *Columbia* and *Morrissey*, bringing advices from New-Orleans to April 24, arrived at this port yesterday. That part of the military news which is apparently the most important, seems to be only the echo of that already received via Cairo. It is to the effect that the rebels exhibited a disposition to attack Gen. BANKS in his strongly fortified position on the Red River, and that the skirmishing which was in progress might at any time grow into a battle. The rumor regarding the occupation of Shreveport by Gen. STEELE, has no addition—that he was throwing up fortifications. If he is actually at that place or in its immediate vicinity, it is difficult to understand why the rebels do not attempt to dispose of him before assembling themselves regarding the forces under Gen. BANKS, which are not likely to be able to resume the offensive for some days, according to the latest accounts. A call for a meeting to appoint delegates to a Union State Convention which shall send delegates to the National Convention, appears in the New-Orleans papers. The Constitutional Convention was trying to reach the more important business which it had assembled to perform.

We have a sensation dispatch from North Carolina. It is dated Newbern, April 24, 4 P. M., precisely, and conveys the startling intelligence "that the capture of Plymouth, including Gen. WESSELS and his command, by the rebels, is confirmed." In other words, "the Dutch have taken Holland." Then we are assured that "Gen. WESSELS and his little band of fifteen hundred veterans fought like heroes for four days and nights, leaving the rebels dead in heaps in every street, which they admit will number seventeen hundred." It is some comfort to know, however, that "the proceedings of the rebels at Plymouth will not compensate them for the severe loss they sustained;" and further, that should they "attack Little Washington or Newbern their punishment will be fearful." Of one thing this excited correspondent knows nothing—the movements of the rebels; although he favors us with a report that they have gone to Virginia. We think they have—some of them, at least.

### FOREIGN.

The Europa arrived at Halifax yesterday morning after a stormy passage. She brings European dates as late as the 17th ult. via Queenstown.

The pirate *Florida* had found refuge in a Spanish port, her application for a supply of coal at a Portuguese port having been refused. The paternity of the famous Laird iron-clads is said to have been acknowledged by the Pasha of EGYPT, who, a correspondent of the London *Times* asserts, states that he ordered their construction. The source whence this story comes, and the fact that his Egyptian Highness has been so tardy in acknowledging his connection with these notorious craft, may lead some to doubt the authenticity of this little romance. GARIBALDI continued to be "all the rage" in London. He had a magnificent reception at the Crystal Palace on the 15th ult., when several flags were presented to him. The Emperor MAXIMILIAN and the Empress left Miramar on April 14, and were expected to reach Rome on the 19th, whence they would depart the succeeding day for Mexico. The conference upon the Danish question was to hold its first session in London on April 20, ("no postponement on account of the weather,") and the German Diet was to be represented. Meanwhile, the Prussians are steadily pushing the siege of Duppel. Breadstuffs and provisions were dull and declining. Consols closed 91¾@91¾ for money.

### CONGRESS.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. WILSON introduced a resolution, which was referred to the Military Committee, that any officer whose resignation or commission was accepted, shall not be entitled to hold or exercise command until again appointed by the President, with consent of the Senate. Mr. SUMNER introduced a bill providing for a Board of Examination to ascertain the merits and capacity of all applicants for civil service under the Government, except those appointed by the President. The House bill for relief of settlers on land claims in California was called up and discussed. The bill granting lands for a railroad in Minnesota, as amended by the House, was passed. The amendment of the Finance Committee to the Tax Bill taxing banks was passed.

In the House a resolution was adopted for the appointment of a committee of nine, to investigate the charges made by Mr. BLAIR against Secretary CHASE, and all allegations affecting the integrity of the Treasury Department. Messrs. Garfield, Wilson, Brooks, Davis, Stuart, Pomeroy, Dawson, Jenckes and Steele were appointed as the Committee. The Senate amendments to the Army Appropriation Bill making the pay and emolument of colored soldiers equal to those of white, to take effect from January 1, 1864, was adopted. Ayes, 91; nays, 49.

### GENERAL NEWS.

In the United States Commissioner's office, before Commissioner GUNDER, Lieut. KINNEY was brought up and discharged. Prisoner was arrested some weeks ago charged with having in his possession a quantity of counterfeit Postal Currency. Without going into the facts, the Commissioner was compelled to discharge him, as the law of July, 1862, had not made it a penal offence to be in possession of spurious Postal Currency. On examination, this serious defect in the law authorizing the issue of Postal Currency is found to exist.

Gen. SHERMAN has issued an important order which reads as follows: "Provisions will no longer be issued to citizens at military posts south of Nashville. Where citizens cannot procure provisions in the country, there is no alternative but they must remove to the rear. Provisions must not be sold to any persons save officers in the service of the United States and the hired men employed in the Quartermaster's or other departments of the Government, at a rate not to exceed one ration per day. Commanding officers will give their personal attention to the matter, as it is of vital importance. It is idle for any to be pushing forward subsistence stores if they are intended and appended on any pretence except they belong to the army proper."

It seems to be pretty well settled that the letters produced in the House of Representatives some days since by Gen. GARFIELD, purporting to have been written by J. S. DAVIS and D. P. HOKLEN, of Indiana, were certainly forgeries. The Indianapolis *Sentinel* states that they were written at the desk in the office of a hotel in that city, and that they were fabricated for the spy RANKIN in the hopes that they might protect him in case he fell into rebel hands. The last time RANKIN's friends heard from him was three days before the battle of Chickamauga, when he was at BRAGG's headquarters, and they now suppose him to be dead.

A letter from Kanawha Court House states that the rebels are committing serious depredations in that vicinity. The writer says: "On Tuesday night they took seventy horses from the bank of the Ohio River opposite Gallipolis. On Wednesday they captured some twenty or thirty mules, within twelve or fourteen miles of this town, where a pretty large military force is encamped. And on Thursday they got four horses belonging to Judge SUMMERS, and took the contents of two stores from Red House Shoals."

Senator HICKS has so far recovered from his recent illness and the effects of the amputation of his leg, that he has been able to go from his residence, which is in Cambridge, Md., to his law office.

On Monday evening last, in Baltimore, a Government detective, acting under the order of the Military Provost-Marshal, arrested at her boarding-house Mrs. WILLIAM KEY HOWARD, the wife of the former editor of the Baltimore *Exchange*, who spent several months as a political prisoner in Fort Lafayette and Fort Warren. In Mrs. HOWARD's apartments large packages of letters, nearly all addressed to persons residing within the rebel lines, were found. She was held for *further investigation*.

J. B. ROGERS, Colonel commanding at Cape Girardeau, Missouri, reports: "that a detachment of his regiment, stationed at Charleston, Missouri, had a fight with guerrillas on the 19th instant, killing four. On the 20th they came upon them in a house, a fight ensued and eight more were killed. The house was burned. The enrolled Missouri Militia have killed six within the last week. No prisoners were taken. PHILIP DAVIS, a desperate guerrilla chief, was killed."

An intelligent deserter from the Twelfth Arkansas, who was in the Chattanooga *Gazette* office last Thursday, states that the old issue of rebel currency is worth, in specie, $2 50 per $100, and that the new is worth $4. He states, further, that the several officers exercise extraordinary vigilance to prevent deserting to the "Yanks." It is his opinion that one half of JOHNSTON's army is ever on duty watching the other half.

The *National Intelligencer* learns from a citizen of Maryland that the troops of Gen. BURNSIDE, in their late march from Annapolis to this city, while encamping for a night near the Maryland Agricultural College, burnt up nearly four miles of fencing. On breaking up their camp they left behind them blankets, equipments, and in some cases even arms.

It is said that Gen. CASEY, who has so long been engaged upon the board for examining officers of colored troops, has become tired of the work and applied for an active command. His request will probably be complied with.

The New-Orleans *Era* quotes from a Brownsville journal of April 16, the curious statement that the French are retreating from the City of Mexico.

Gen. HALLECK is said to be an applicant for Chief of the Engineer Bureau, made vacant by the death of Gen. TOTTEN.

Breadstuffs were legally dealt in on Saturday; prices favored buyers. Provisions were generally in fair demand. Pork was quoted higher. A good inquiry prevailed for Hay, Hides, Leather, Petroleum, Fruit, Wool, Metals, Cotton, Tallow and Spanish Tobacco. Whisky was in more request, and firmer. Freights were quiet, with 581 vessels of all classes in port.

### Secession—Historical Parallels.

Those who are fond of drawing instruction from historical parallels, or who seek for political guidance by examining the analogies of different States, may consult, with no little interest at the present time, a comprehensive and learned monogram, by Gen. J. WATTS DE PEYSTER, of New-York, entitled "Secession in Switzerland and in the United States Compared." The author does not absolutely confine himself to an analysis of the secession malady which seems almost to be of an endemic character in the Swiss Republic, since it has existed there for more than three hundred years—but makes discursive references to the three European Republics, Holland, Venice and Genoa, destroyed by the first NAPOLEON; and taking the first named for a text, reads his fellow-countrymen a solemn and pointed admonition on the danger of mistaking the heat of party spirit for the zeal of patriotism, and of seeking for national riches as the end, and not as the means, of national greatness. Along with this admonitory reflection, Gen. DE PEYSTER draws from the fate which followed the admission of foreign interference by the United Provinces, a practical lesson to illustrate the necessity, the imperious necessity, of maintaining the doctrine of Monroe inviolate, "as an antidote to the poison of foreign intervention in the affairs of this, our continent." He reasons, too, and reasons well, that the failure of former republics and the occasional licenses or sporadic excesses of liberal institutions should neither discourage nor disgust thinking men. And quoting the famous passage of MACAULAY on Liberty, he pointedly reminds us of the Fairy of Ariosto: "Those who injured her during the period of her disguise, when she bore a loathsome aspect, were forever excluded from participation in the blessings which she bestowed, but to those who, in spite of her loathsome aspect, pitied and protected her, she afterward revealed herself in the beautiful and celestial form which was natural to her, accompanied their steps, granted all their wishes, filled their houses with wealth, made them happy in love, and victorious in war. Such is the spirit of liberty. • • Woe to those who in disgust shall venture to crush her! And happy those who having dared to receive her in her degraded shape, shall at length be rewarded by her in the time of her beauty and her glory."

The secession disease in Switzerland had its last most virulent outbreak in 1847, and, like all the previous attacks from which the Republic during three centuries had been periodically a sufferer, they had their origin in the dissimilarity of the religious faith and social tendencies of the different Cantons which make up the State. Some of these Cantons, as every one knows, are Protestant, some Catholic, and the existence of a deep religious rancor, fostered by native and foreign emissaries of the Society of Jesus, intensifies the political jealousies of the rival provinces. Under the inspiration of these malign agencies, and by the connivance and encouragement of French, Austrian, and other foreign sympathizers, the secessionists opened their Provisional Congress, or Sonderbund, in May, 1846; and the grievances of which this rebellious league had to complain, are almost identical with those preferred by the first Secession Assembly which met in 1523, on the promulgation of the edict of Religious Reformation by the Central Legislature of Berne. In both cases, one of the foremost outside prompters of the rebels was the life-long enemy of the Republic—Austria. The array of parties and the condition of affairs in Switzerland in the Sixteenth Century presents a perfect parallel of the occurrences there in the Nineteenth, and the same antagonism has existed either in a dormant or active condition in the long intervening period.

After the Swiss Republic became consolidated, as it had never been before, by the action of the French Directory, and after the Congress of Vienna had given the most solemn guarantee for its independence, the intestine struggle between the retrogradists and the Liberal party began anew with intense bitterness. The *Sonderbund* revived its leagues, and "nullification" was the order of the day. The Republic had its conspiracy in 1832, as we had ours in South Carolina the same year, and not content with maintaining their ascendancy in the Cantons which properly belong to Romanism, the object of the politico-religious leaguers among the Swiss, like that of the Slavery propagandists here, *has been to invade and rule* the Liberal Cantons. The Argovian Convents, which had been active in 1841 in exciting political disturbances, were suppressed by the Federal Diet, and hereupon commenced that series of irregular and generally partisan fights between rival factions which preceded the establishment of the Sonderbund in 1846. At this latter date the revolutionists numbered 416,000 all told, and the loyalists 1,860,000, while there were over 100,000 neutrals. The war between the two was formally announced by a Federal call for 50,000 volunteers, and another for 90,000, or what would be equivalent to a levy of 1,000,000 men here. Without the aid of any undue stimulus, or the compulsory agency of conscription, 100,000 men were promptly in the field to do battle for the Swiss Union, and meet the Jesuits and their 40,000 Secession soldiers. All the Cantons have an admirably organized militia, and from this Gen. DUFOUR, the Federal Commander, had at once placed at his disposal a force splendid alike in numbers, equipment and discipline, when, on the 4th of November, 1847, he received his orders to dissolve the Sonderbund by force of arms. As in the case of our war, however, the rebels made the first attack at an outlying post in the Canton of Ticino; but Gen. DUFOUR was prompt and resolute in his plans; he was not diverted from his first great purpose by any petty outlying assault of the Secessionists' army. He drew a chain of troops around the hotbed and nest of the rebellious leaguers. The Diet gave him implicit confidence and unquestioning support, and although even the fall of Freyburg, which shortly followed, did not produce the submission of the more fiery Separate Leaguers, the Sonderbund were terror-stricken, and offered to capitulate. Then followed the attack on Lucerne and its surrender, and with the fall of this, the chief rebel seat, the war was practically ended, and secession was killed. The rebel Sonderbund, says our author, had the sense to see as soon as Lucerne had yielded their game was up; and thus in twenty-three days after the decree of the Federal Diet had ordered DUFOUR to draw his sword and unfurl the Federal standard, the veteran General was enabled to announce that the Secession Alliance was crushed.

### Gold Mining in Canada.

The regulations affecting the privileges of mining in the newly-discovered gold-bearing districts of Lower Canada were issued by the Crown Lands Department on Saturday last, and as the capital of American citizens has already been invested to a considerable extent in the Chaudiere and St. Francis Divisions, where operations were commenced several months ago, it is well to see what the claims of the Crown amount to, and what are the governmental restrictions on mining enterprise.

Anyone not familiar with these Canada gold-bearing regions may readily suppose, from glancing at the map, that they include a large area of cultivated land—judging from their contiguity to the St. Lawrence and to the great arterial line of railroad. Such, however, is not the case. Much of the Chaudiere District, immediately south of Quebec, and extending to the frontier line, is not only in a wild condition at present, but a large portion of it unfit for cultivation. The St. Francis Division, lying south by west of the Chaudiere, presents a larger area of arable land, but much the greater portion of it is still in a wild condition, so that intending miners have at present the chance offered of dealing direct with the Crown, not only for the mining license, but for a considerable portion of the land itself.

The Crown fees are not exorbitant, provided a police is maintained sufficient to meet the requirements of a large influx of settlers. The applicant for license must purchase the land on which he proposes to carry on his operations, in cases where that land is now the property of the Crown. He can be accommodated with one hundred *arpents*, (corresponding to acres) or with any less quantity at the rate of $2 an acre. Having made his purchase he shows his patent to the mining inspector, (one inspector being appointed for each division,) and on application and the payment of a fee of $1 for each person employed, he gets a three months' license, renewable at the same rate, and on the same conditions at the expiring of its term, provided the holder has conformed to the covenants which it contains. The smallest number of persons who may work under one license is five. For each additional person one dollar extra will be charged, the holder of the license being put upon oath periodically by the inspector as to his fidelity to his engagements. Licenses are transferable by the consent of the Government on the payment of a fee of one dollar.

When we say that over one hundred townships, all containing a large proportion of Crown lands, are included in the Divisions of Chaudiere and St. Francis, intending miners will probably be relieved from much anxiety as to the question of being able to secure a foothold if application is made within a reasonable period. On the more interesting question of the fertility of the mining region thus designated, our means of information are certainly not more definite than in the case of Idaho. All that can be truthfully said is, that the geological authorities of the Province report favorably on the mineral properties of the district; that numbers of enterprising persons are moving thitherward from Maine and other sections of New-England, and that the local Government is seriously impressed with the importance of stepping into the foreground at once, in order to protect the rights of the Crown.

Respecting these same Crown rights, moreover, it is as well to say that nothing in the shape of a "royalty," as the term is understood in England, is exacted from the miner. The quarterly fee is simply a guarantee, in the first instance, of the *bona fides* of the miner, and is, next, a just provision *toward meeting the expense of keeping the public peace* in the mining districts. All that the intending speculator has to care for is the finding of the gold. That once found, he can pursue his game, without any unreasonable tax either on his means or his principles. To this it may be added that there is room for some outside operations in one provision contained in the Crown land regulations. The purchaser of these so-called gold-bearing Crown lands is exempt from settlement duties, so that he may get his patent secured at once on paying $2 an *arpent*.

We are glad that the provincials have found these mines within their borders. It is to be hoped they contain enough of the precious metals to pay for working them, and to keep the Canadians lively. With the infinitely greater attractions in our own boundless mineral domain in the far West, with its superior climate, superior institutions, and immense superiority in every way, the Lower Canadians need entertain little of the fear they express that their mining lands will all be overrun by Yankees.

### England and Her Operatives.

The operatives of England are the creators of the wealth of England. Without their industry, she could not pay the interest of her enormous debt, could not meet the current expenses of her Government, could not maintain her present proud position among the nations. Without the support of their strong arms, her resources, her power, her prestige, would vanish as the morning mist. Yet, how are these indefatigable toilers requited for the services they render? Why, by denying them the rights of citizens and of human nature, and by manifesting, on every possible occasion, her distrust of them. Here is a case illustrative of England's mode of dealing with her working millions. An intelligent body of the London operatives, having resolved to celebrate SHAKESPEARE's tercentenary by marching in procession to Green Park, and there planting a young oak in honor of the great dramatist, took the liberty of sending a deputation to Downing-street, to ask permission of Mr. COWPER, Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests, to proceed through Hyde Park to their destination. Their object had no connection whatever with politics; they merely meant to make a public demonstration of their reverence for literature, to plant in the earth the sapling, which, in its upward and outward growth for centuries, should symbolize the increasing fame of the matchless bard, and then to return home the way they came.

Now there was nothing so very presumptuous in the request of these children of toil that Mr. COWPER need have been alarmed at it, even though its authors did contemplate a procession through one of Her Majesty's Parks. Nevertheless, the chief Commissioner, as became an aristocrat, a red-tapist, and a stickler for routine, was not a little startled at the idea. A million of men could enter Hyde Park as a straggling, disorderly crowd, without Mr. C.'s permit; but to let a hundred thousand peaceable operatives march in procession there, was not to be thought of. It would be establishing a dangerous precedent, which might, forsooth, lead to ill consequences. "If we were now," says he, "to make an exception in favor of the Shakespeare demonstration, and invite ninety thousand people to assemble with music and banners, another ninety thousand might want to assemble for *another* purpose." Very true. Yet it does not by any means follow that, if Mr. COWPER were to grant the favor solicited by the ninety thousand who would fain do honor to SHAKESPEARE, he would be thereby placed under the necessity of conceding a similar privilege to ninety thousand Chartists sworn to overthrow the monarchy.

Mr. COWPER is certainly not a Shakespearian, or he would hardly have strained after a pretext in this fashion to justify his denial of the operatives' request. He had evidently no sympathy for their object. He could perceive nothing deserving of encouragement in it; and seemed to consider it rather an offence in these humble men to have dipped into the pages of SHAKESPEARE, and acquired thence tastes commonly deemed above their condition in life. But to others the simple and beautiful conception of these operatives will be regarded as a singular proof of merit; a merit which appears the more conspicuous when contrasted with the wrangling and blundering of those pretentious committees composed of the literary, social and professional snobs of the day.

The Shakespearian Tercentenary celebration is now ended, and all the excitement of the festivals is past; but we sincerely hope that the ninety thousand workers of the British metropolis, despite the opposition of the misanthropical Commissioner, found a place to plant their commemorative tree. It is lamentable that a Government styling itself Liberal, should have appointed such a thing to office as this Mr. COWPER, and still more lamentable that the drones of society should have it in their power to mar the happiness of its toilers on those rare occasions when they can afford to enjoy themselves; yet, such is one of the inevitable results of that social structure of which Tories are ever boasting.

### The New-Zealand War Again.

The war against the Maories is not yet ended, despite the sanguine anticipations to the contrary, which were generally entertained by the Australians after the capture of Rangariri. Though the natives suffered severely on that occasion, they were not so utterly prostrated as the colonists imagined, and when popular clamor constrained Sir GEORGE GREY to abandon his policy of mercy, and to demand absolute submission on the part of the vanquished, they preferred renewing the contest in conjunction with their former allies, rather than accept such a condition; and so to the number of 3,000 or 4,000, they are now intrenched in a formidable position, where they have constructed a series of strongholds, each *fortified with earthworks and stockades*, while the ground on all sides is honeycombed with a *network of rifle-pits*. There, at latest accounts, the native warriors awaited the attack of Gen. CAMERON with as much confidence as if they had never been beaten. The position is one of great strength, and will be stiffly defended, but should the gunboats get within range of the works what possible chance can the Maories have?

Meantime, Gen. CAMERON, with a force of about 2,700 men, had arrived in presence of the native stronghold, and had already commenced his approaches to its works. We hear of two very different modes of operation. According to the first, CAMERON intended to institute a blockade of the whole position with his troops, and so to starve the enemy, and compel them to surrender—which would be an extraordinary achievement with his small force. The second plan ascribed to CAMERON—the design of dividing his force into two parts, and endeavoring to storm the position on two of its sides at once, has a greater appearance of truth. Should the British succeed in carrying the position, and inflicting such another blow on the natives as they did at Rangariri, it will weaken their power, but will hardly induce them to abandon the contest. They will merely retire to some other place of strength, and make preparation for constraining CAMERON to perform the same operation over again. "It is not so very easy," says a New-Zealand correspondent, "to put down a Maori rebellion as the *habitués* of the London clubs suppose, and if some of those professional loungers who are incessantly pooh-poohing the difficulties of the attempt were compelled to exchange the bow-window for the front, and, instead of criticising the latest intelligence, were to take a turn in the trenches, they would soon have a better conception of what kind of work the subjugation of insurgent Maories really is."

The difficulties attendant on the work have been increased by the cupidity and vindictiveness of the colonists. After the capture of Rangariri, the natives might have been induced to lay down their arms, had the Governor been allowed to pursue his own moderate policy. But now that the natives are convinced that they have no alternative save to fight to the last, or submit unconditionally, they will struggle till their power is utterly broken. The fact is that it would not greatly trouble the colonists if the native New-Zealanders were exterminated; they covet the fertile lands of the Aborigines, and are of opinion that the best way of securing a title to those lands would be to annihilate their present occupants root and branch. But to carry out this scheme a long, sanguinary and merciless war must be waged, which will be a disgrace to civilization and to the British Government.

THE MEXICAN QUESTION.—In another column we give copious extracts from our files of English journals, together with translations of notable passages from our French files, to illustrate the popular feeling abroad regarding the progress of events in Mexico. The supercilious, insulting tone in which reference is made to the disability of our Government to interfere at present with the erection of a monarchy upon the ruins of the Mexican Republic might, and perhaps would, excite our indignation, were it not for the ludicrous perplexity in which both the English and French journalists appear to be regarding what has actually been accomplished by NAPOLEON, and the fears which seem to haunt them unless the would-be Emperor may not after all find his path to the Mexican capital strewn with roses. The London *Times*, for instance, speaks of the historical significance of the fact that a republic had been superseded by a monarchy in America, and in the next breath congratulates the world that NAPOLEON has instituted a Government where anarchy—no government at all—existed. *La France* announces that the French troops will be withdrawn from the scene of their conquests immediately upon the arrival of the Emperor MAXIMILIAN, and by a curious coincidence its prophesy seems to be anticipated simultaneously with its utterance, for we have a rumor that the French have already left the City of Mexico. If events continue to progress at this rate, the Emperor in embryo will not only want a blessing from the Pope to insure the throne to his posterity;—he will need one none the less to make secure his own occupation of it.

THE CITY CARS AND GENERAL GOODS DELIVERY.—It is doubtless due to an excessive sensibility that the more wealthy City Railway Corporations have been in the habit of extending to a class of tradespeople and housekeepers the privilege of stowing away, under and around the seats in the cars, any conceivable amount of outward or homeward bound stuffs. The privilege is probably just in principle, or could be rendered so in intent; but is it not possible that with the long eyes on out of sight and the rushing stream of City travel day by day swelling in volume, the green grocery and general carrying system in combination with the passenger traffic, may be carried to excess? Immediate contact with a huge pile of superannuated Hebrew clothing stock is not desirable at any time; it is most undesirable in overheated and overcrowded cars. The same may be said of packages of partially dried codfish; of suspicious joints of half-cured pork, and of those promiscuous packages which, in the hands of that sad female "help," lately from the other side of the water, are continually dropping locks in fragmentary bits, to the grief of their possessor, and the discomfort of her fellow-travelers. Nor are the stoppages occasioned by the transfer of the goods, in and out, always as convenient to those with whom time is an element to be taken into account. One may overlook the delays caused by accommodating some overburdened waif, whose very look tells you that he can afford no more than a *sou* for the transportation of himself and his entire real and personal estate from one end of the island to the other. But is it possible to be equally complaisant towards that stalwart tailor from the suburbs, who is foisted into the car, actually staggering under a load of military uniforms—sufficient perhaps to clothe half a company—and all to be liberally paid for on the instant of delivery?

This, it is true, is but one of the petty grievances of city life. But surely if the Railway Companies choose to carry passengers and freight in the same cars, why do they give those of the public who travel, unencumbered with goods and chattels, each second car (or whatever may appear reasonable) for separate accommodation.

INFANTRY VS. GUNBOATS.—Admiral PORTER, in the interesting official report of his late operations up the Red River, gives some details of a curious and horrible affair of which we learned by telegraph. It was a fight between one of his iron-clad vessels and a large body of rebels—the latter a part of the force which had just gained success over Gen. BANKS. He tells how, flushed with victory, or under the excitement of liquor, they appeared suddenly upon the right bank, and fearlessly opened fire on the *Osage*, (ironclad,) she being hard aground at the time, with 2,000 muskets, while the *Osage* quickly returned a destructive fire upon "these poor deluded wretches," as Admiral PORTER properly calls them. In desperation they strove to capture the gunboat; and force after force seemed to be brought up to the edge of the bank, where they confronted the guns of the iron-vessel only to be mowed down by grapeshot and canister. We are told that this drunken and maddened mass of men were led on by their officers, and that their hootings and actions baffled description. In the meantime another gunboat, the *Lexington*, came up to take part in the fight, and opened a cross fire upon the rebels, which finally decided this curious affair of a fight between infantry and gunboats. The rebels were now mowed down by canister, and finally retreated in as quick-haste as they had come to the attack, leaving the space of a mile covered with dead and wounded, and knapsacks. The affair lasted nearly two hours before the rebels fled.

GRANT'S CAMPAIGN.—Some of the rebels in Richmond have got the terrible idea into their heads that, notwithstanding all the preparation and concentration that is going on in Virginia—notwithstanding the demonstrations on the Peninsula, on the Rappahannock, and on the Rapidan—notwithstanding the renewal of the cry of "On to Richmond," Lieut.-Gen. GRANT is, after all, not going to open his Summer campaign in Virginia, at all. They fancy that all the preparation in Virginia is but a blind to cover up some dangerous design of GRANT elsewhere, and that, as he dumbfounded the rebels by his operations at Vicksburgh last year at this time, and so again at Chattanooga, last November, he dumbfounded BRAGG and all rebeldom—so it is possible he may now be preparing for their benefit some operation of which they have as little idea as they had of his last two. Who can tell, to see the flatulent language of a late Richmond *Enquirer*, but that "all preparations for an advance against JOHNSTON may be made in the West just as *secretly* as they have been *openly* conducted in the East, and within a few hours the railroads transport GRANT and his headquarters from the "field" in the East, to the "field" in the West, and he sweep down upon JOHNSTON while the public in Virginia are straining their eyes to see his advance, or their ears to hear the distant thunders of his approach." This is certainly an appalling line of speculation the Jeff. Davis organ falls into, but we leave it to Gen. GRANT himself to convey the information whether or not the speculations are correct.

### The National Academy of Design.

*To the Editor of the New-York Times:*

The Academy of Design is truly an ornament to our City; a hot-bed of art, nourishing the public love of art, and stimulating the ambition of American artists.

The new Academy, now being in the progress of erection, promises to be one of the finest—perhaps the most original, edifice in the City. Its exterior architecture and cost of its construction, lead us to expect that it is built expressly to stand for centuries, and therefore we naturally believe it to be thoroughly fire-proof. Having just seen its interior, I am grieved to see therein wooden beams laid on ice floors—wood, I mean, of course; and I fear a wooden roof will be put on—a climax of folly in the case of ornamental, while the elaborate finish of the exterior walls indicates a disregard for cost as regards their materials and ornaments.

Thousands of dollars have been contributed by our generous fellow-citizens toward the erection of a beautiful temple of art, and must they (the donors) see combustible materials introduced to the interior so as to invite a conflagration, thus bringing their generosity to naught? So far as it concerns the building when destroyed by fire, insurance will no doubt cover the loss, and may fetch dollars to the owners of the burnt premises of not an exhibition—for example, COLE's "Voyage of Life," BIERSTADT's masterpieces and CRAWFORD's statues—but it cannot restore them as works of art to the world.

As the building has not yet made much progress toward completion, I hope the officers of the Academy will perceive the egregious folly of saving a few cents by using cheap and perishable materials for the interior, while they are lavishing dollars on the rich marble ornaments, statues and bas-reliefs on the exterior walls, and have sufficient time to substitute metallic beams, rafters and roof, and artificial stone floors, which will require a few more thousand dollars to pay for.

RAPHAEL PELETTA.

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# FROM WASHINGTON.

## The Joint Resolution Increasing Duties Fifty Per Cent. Signed by the President.

## Interesting Congressional Proceedings.

## The Investigation into the Charges Against Secretary Chase.

## A Committee of Nine Appointed by the House.

## Interesting Debate Upon the Treatment of Negroes.

DISPATCHES TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.
WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 30.

THE RESOLUTION INCREASING DUTIES APPROVED.

The President has approved of the joint resolution temporarily increasing the duty on imports 50 per centum. It is therefore a law.

THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR APPROPRIATION BILL.

A letter from the Secretary of State calls the attention of the House Committee on Commerce to several Senate amendments to the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation Bill, recommended by the Finance Committee at the suggestion of the Secretary, and designed to secure the more efficient working of the Consular system and execution of the law of last Congress requiring all invoices of goods imported into the United States to be authenticated by our consuls, by which the Consular fees will be increased during the present year more than one hundred thousand dollars, and also to protect our revenue from the operations of smugglers in Canada. It is asked to transfer salaries of fifteen hundred dollars from the new unimportant ports of Otranto, Taranto, Ancona and Napoleon Vendee, to Consulates at Brindisi, Gibraltar, St. Helena and Rouleaux. Authority is requested to appoint two Consuls in Canada at Clifton, Coaticooke, Erie, Goderich, Kingston, Port Sarnia, Prescott, St. Lambert, Longueil, Toronto and Windsor, at salaries of fifteen hundred each. The Secretary says that he has reliable information from Canada, France, Switzerland, and even China, that arrangements are in progress for shipping large quantities of lace, silks, velvets and other rich goods to Canada, with the intention of attempting to smuggle them into the United States under the prospective high tariff. An increase of the Consulate salary at Mexico is also recommended. In consequence of the fraudulent undervaluation of silks and velvets, requiring the employment of an expert, and the necessity of triplicate invoices at Lyons, France, five hundred dollars additional salary is recommended for that Consulate.

SOLD RELATIVE TO ABANDONED PROPERTY.

The Secretary of the Treasury has communicated to Mr. Wadsworth, of Illinois, Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, the draft of a bill relative to abandoned property, with various suggestions concerning the necessary legislation upon the subject.

The first section sanctions sales of live stock, planting implements and machinery, at the points where collected, instead of sending them to some place in the loyal States, as required by the present law.

The second section commits the care of abandoned plantations with the general care of the freedmen, whose support must be derived from the cultivation of these lands, unless they are to become a burden on the Treasury. This provision involves little expense or delay.

The third section provides that fees be charged for permits, graduated according to the magnitude of the transaction, and that they be paid into the Treasury, after deducting the attendant expenses; also the moneys arising from the leases of abandoned lands.

The fourth section meets the cases of persons residing within the lines in insurrectionary States, who claim to conduct trade and transport supplies therein, without being subject to the prohibitions and penalties applying to persons from other States.

The fifth section is intended to sanction restrictions upon trade and transportation in the loyal States, for the purpose of preventing supplies to the rebels.

The sixth section repeals the existing distribution of one-half the proceeds from abandoned property to informers and customs officers, and leaves the whole matter with the court deciding the forfeiture.

MARITIME PRIZES.

The Secretary suggests the necessity of revising the law governing maritime prizes, now construed to cover captures in inland waters, and even property taken from shores.

THE PURCHASE AND TRANSPORTATION OF COTTON.

Most of the cotton purchased has, by fraudulent practices, gone into individual hands, and very little money has been realized to the Government from the cotton owned by the Southern or Confederate States. The Secretary favors the abrogation of the whole system, and the purchase and transportation of the cotton exclusively by the Government.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD BILL.

The Pacific Railroad Bill, as reported by Mr. Sumner from the House Select Committee, provides that the grant of lands shall not impair any preemption houseright, swamp lands, or other lawful claim or Government reservation. It proposes to repeal the provision for the reservation by Government of a portion of the construction bonds.

The Central Pacific Railroad Company of California is authorized to issue first mortgage bonds, not exceeding the amount of the Government bonds, to which the line of United States bonds shall be subordinated. Any other road of the line may issue one-half the amount of United States bonds, and have the same precedence. It fixes the number of directors, to be elected by the stockholders, at twenty, and the number to be appointed by the President, at ten.

THE ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL.

While the Senate's amendments to the Army Appropriation Bill were under consideration in the House, to-day, Representative SCHENCK, Chairman of the Military Committee, proposed to substitute for the sections relating to negro soldiers, the Senate's bill equalizing the pay of all soldiers of the army, which had been passed upon by that Committee with some modifications, and also increasing the pay, etc. The Senate having become impatient at the delay of the House not acting upon their bill, incorporated its provisions in the Army Appropriation Bill which previous, with the amendments by the Committee on Ways and Means and those of the Military Committee, formed the basis of the House proceedings of to-day, and the result is as stated in the Congressional summary.

ENLISTED MEN TO REPORT FORTHWITH.

A special order issued by the War Department this morning requires all enlisted men now in this city on detailed duty, to report forthwith to their regiments in the field, unless they can produce, from proper medical authority, certificates of physical inability, and are unable to perform the duties of the field.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The General Land-office has just prepared a most important circular to give effect to a recent act of Congress, supplementary of the Homestead Law. The object in view is to make that land available to persons in the land and naval service of the United States, through the instrumentality of their families or other representatives. It also extends the period for proving and paying for pre-emptions for a period of six months after expiration of the military or naval service. It likewise increases the fees of registers and receivers of all Land Districts this side of the Rocky Mountains, and adds, in addition to such increase, 10 per cent. to officers on the Pacific slope, in New-Mexico, Arizona and Idaho.

THE TEN-FORTY LOAN.

The amount of the subscriptions to the Ten-Forty Loan reported at the Treasury Department reaches $234,000.

SHOT FOR DESERTION.

Private JOHN H. THOMPSON, of Company C, First Ohio Cavalry, was shot yesterday at noon, near Alexandria, for desertion to the enemy and robbery. This man was captured with a party of guerrillas in Loudon County, last September, where he had been a terror to the inhabitants for months previous. He was scarcely twenty years of age.

## PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

SENATE

WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 30.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, (Union,) introduced a bill to provide for the greater efficiency of the civil service of the United States, which provides for a Board of Examination for candidates for all civil offices or promotion in such offices, except in those appointed by the President. The applicants must be citizens, between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five; and must furnish such testimonials and take such oath of allegiance as the board may prescribe; the work of the applicants to be assigned according to their degree of merit, and vacancies to be filled in precise accordance with such assignment in the department or branch of the service for which the examination was made.

RIGHTS OF NEGROES.

Mr. SUMNER introduced a resolution requesting the President to communicate to the Senate the opinion of the Attorney-General as to the rights of colored persons in the army and elsewhere.

Objected to by Mr. POWELL.

MILITARY RESIGNATIONS.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, (Union,) introduced a joint resolution that no officer of the regular or volunteer force, whose appointment is required to be made by the President by and with the advice of the Senate, and who shall have resigned his commission, and whose resignation shall have been accepted, shall be entitled to hold or exercise command in said forces until again appointed thereto by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Referred to the Military Committee.

RELIEF OF SETTLERS.

Mr. HARDING called up the House bill for the relief of settlers on land claims in California.

Mr. HARDING, of Oregon, (Union,) and Mr. CONNESS defended the bill in reply to Mr. JOHNSON, who contended that the policy of its propositions would be injurious, as it was a direct interference with the action of the judiciary.

Mr. HARLAN, of Iowa, (Union,) from the Committee on Public Lands, reported the Senate bill granting lands for a railroad in Minnesota, with the House amendment making the grant directly to the State; and it was passed.

The Senate then took up the special order, viz.:

THE NATIONAL CURRENCY BILL.

The amendment of the Senate Committee taxing banks was passed without amendment.

The bill was then reported to the Senate.

The principal amendment of the Senate Finance Committee to the bill as reported is the following, to the 61st section of the House bill.

"In lieu of all other taxes, every association shall pay to the Treasurer of the United States in the months of January and July a duty of one-half per centum each half year from and after the 1st day of January, 1864, upon the average amount of its notes in circulation, and a duty of one-quarter of one per centum each half year upon the average amount of its deposits, and a duty of one-quarter of one-half per centum each half year as aforesaid, on the average amount of its capital stock beyond the amount invested in United States bonds." After prescribing the manner of collecting the tax, and affixing a penalty of $200 for each default of payment, it is "provided that nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent the market value of the shares in any of the said associations held by any person or body corporate from being included in the valuation of the personal property of such person or corporation in the assessment of all taxes imposed by or under State authority, for State, county or municipal purposes, but not at a greater rate than is assessed upon other moneyed capital in the hands of individual citizens of such States. And all the remedies provided by the State laws for the collection of such taxes shall be applicable thereto: provided, also, that nothing in this act exempt real estate of the associations from either State, county, or municipal taxes to the same extent, according to its value, as other real estate is taxed."

The Senate then adjourned, finding itself without a quorum.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 30.

THE TREASURY INVESTIGATION.

Mr. GARFIELD, of Ohio, (Union,) introduced the resolution to which Mr. ANCONA, of Pennsylvania, objected yesterday, in which he (GARFIELD) quoted in the preamble thereto a remark heretofore made by Mr. F. P. BLAIR, to the effect "That Secretary CHASE is making use of the income from abandoned plantations to carry out the programme of the Pomeroy secret circular, and was against the Administration that gave him place, that nobody believes he has retired as a candidate for the Presidency, although he said so in a letter, but is working underground and using his public position to promote his own political schemes, thus running the Pomeroy machine." The preamble further quotes from the New-York *World* and the *Constitutional Union*, which papers have contained articles charging frauds in the fractional currency, etc., and says, as Hon. JAMES BROOKS has to-day repeated the substance of these articles; therefore,

*Resolved*, That a Committee of five be appointed by the Speaker of the House to investigate the truth of the allegations above quoted, and of any other allegations affecting the integrity of the Treasury Department, and that they have power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. HOLMAN, of Indiana, (Dem.,) suggested that the committee consist of nine members, with leave to report at any time.

Mr. GARFIELD, of Ohio, (Union,) consented to the amendment.

Mr. BROOKS, of New-York, (Dem.) did not object to the resolution, but to the misrepresentation of his remarks as quoted in the preamble.

Mr. GARFIELD replied that he had adopted the remarks as taken by the official reporter.

Mr. BROOKS said his remark was millions upon millions of the public money in the Treasury Bureau of Printing had been placed at the peril of sacrifice.

Mr. GARFIELD—I took the exact words of the reporter and cannot change them.

Mr. BROOKS desired to have his remark about the printing of the public money properly reported.

Mr. ENGLISH, of Pennsylvania, (Union,) Objected.

Mr. BROOKS remarked that he ought to be allowed to report what he actually did say, but no objection was made to (BROOKS) would take the resolution as reported.

The resolution was then adopted.

Mr. GARFIELD requested that he might not be placed on the committee.

THE ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL—PAY OF COLORED SOLDIERS.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, reported from the Committee on Ways and Means the Senate amendments to the Army Appropriation Bill.

Among the amendments was one, which was adopted, appropriating forty-five thousand dollars for the purchase of artificial limbs for soldiers and sailors.

The next Senate amendment was read, and in which the Committee on Ways and Means recommended a concurrence, as follows:

That colored persons mustered into the military service shall receive the same uniform, clothing, arms, equipments, rations, medical and hospital attendance, pay and emoluments, as white soldiers, from and after the 1st of January, 1864; and every person of color hereafter mustered into the service shall receive a bounty not exceeding $100.

Mr. HOLMAN, of Indiana, said white soldiers now receive $13 and colored soldiers $10 a month. The proposition is to raise the pay of the blacks to the former amount; but there is no effort to increase the pay of our white soldiers, while in addition to equalizing the pay for the benefit of the black soldiers, Government is also providing for the wives and children of colored soldiers.

The negroes have not been employed to enlist white soldiers in the South as was heretofore claimed to be the purpose; but the latter were sent in full and right under the best commander in the South to which they were entitled.

Mr. ELIOT, of Massachusetts, in explanation said that the men and children of fugitives and freedmen have only to a certain extent been relieved, as cases appealing to humanity.

Mr. HOLMAN replied that wherever on the Mississippi River contraband camps have been established and colored soldiers enlisted, their wives and children are furnished with supplies and supplied by the Government.

Mr. ELIOT inquired whether the gentleman (Holman) would have such persons starve for want of aid?

Mr. HOLMAN replied that he did not wish to be understood as complaining of the Government for exercising humane offices. But he did complain that provision was made for the wives and children of colored soldiers while corresponding advantages were not afforded to those of white soldiers.

Mr. GARFIELD, of New-York, (Dem.,) during a colloquy with Mr. ELIOT, said black was in the Free States never received the same compensation as whites, their services not being as valuable.

Mr. ELIOT, of Massachusetts, (Union,) begged the gentleman's pardon.

Mr. GARFIELD—I accept New-England.

Mr. ELIOT made a statement to show that many contrabands were earning more than was required for their support.

THE SPECIAL TREASURY INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

The Speaker here announced the following gentlemen as the Select Committee to investigate the charges against the Treasury Department: Messrs. Garfield, Wilson, Brooks, Davis, Sweat, Farnsworth, Dawson, Jonathan, conditional, (N. Y.)

PAY OF COLORED TROOPS.

Mr. CLAY, of Kentucky, (Union,) on the subject of the pay of colored troops, still being under consideration, said the property of his constituents had been stolen from their plantations—not only negroes but stock, and everything else. The negroes which were not stolen were taken into the military service, while the restless slaves and women and children are supported at the expense of Government without a particle of law. The Government protected its officers in stealing negroes. He knew it to be true. He had suffered himself, and to that truth of this he would swear in a court of justice. He asked for nothing but what the law and the Constitution gave him, and when these rights were trampled under foot he would raise his voice against it.

Mr. ELIOT said he understood the gentleman from Kentucky to charge that the Government officers had stolen negroes. Did the gentleman say that? He had yet to learn that any such statements rested on the truth.

Mr. CLAY answered—I do.

Mr. ELIOT—I thing the gentleman would find the proper redress by applying to the Government.

Mr. CLAY—I know it to be true.

Mr. ELIOT denied the statement that negroes had been stolen by our officers.

Mr. HOLMAN, resuming, said a large number of contrabands had for months been receiving rations at the hands of the Government in this department.

Mr. ELIOT said that they were paying more to the Government than they received.

Mr. HOLMAN—How?

Mr. ELIOT—By service at the fugitive camp, the proceeds going into the treasury.

Mr. HOLMAN knew contraband men were employed as teamsters, but how were the women and children employed?

Mr. ELIOT said there were thirty or forty thousand dollars standing to the credit of the fund.

Mr. HOLMAN asked the gentleman to refer to some particular record. He understood that the contrabands were gathered at Arlington. How were they employed?

Mr. ELIOT replied that some were engaged in farming, while the women had sewing machines and made clothes for the soldiers. A part of the money was appropriated to their support and the balance was in favor of the Government.

Mr. HOLMAN, of Indiana, (Dem.,) wanted the gentleman to produce the evidence.

Mr. CLAY, of Kentucky, (Union,) said thousands of contrabands were dying in camp of all diseases ever described or imagined. They were rotting to death.

Mr. ELIOT, of Massachusetts, (Union,) said it had been his warmest wish that the Freedman's Bureau should be organized to avoid these very difficulties.

Mr. CLAY resumed, said:—Such mortality is the result of your system; you care no more for a negro than you do for a horse. You are purchasing these negroes with bounties, to save white men. My patience is worn out; I would rather be a slaveholder than a robber, stealing all over the country. The system inaugurated was worse than the original system of Slavery. More money is required to carry it out than it costs to clothe the slaves at the South.

Mr. HOLMAN, resuming, asked: Are we prepared to place by solemn legislation the black upon the same footing with the white soldier? Gentlemen, you have got to this question to meet. He warned the gentlemen not to break down the barriers and resort to such measures as would not promote the patriotism or morals of the army. The rebellion must be put down by the indomitable will of the white man.

Mr. PRICE, of Iowa, (Union,) asked whether Gen. Jackson did not place negro soldiers on the same pay and rations as white men?

Mr. HOLMAN replied that that question had often been asked.

Mr. PRICE requested an answer—yes or no.

(Cries of order from the Opposition side.)

Mr. HOLMAN said the question had been asked and answered a thousand times. He protested against equalizing the white and black. He protested in behalf of the republican government against its being stricken down by this reckless policy.

Mr. PRICE said Gen. Jackson, had the reputation of a statesman and a Democrat. It would do to follow a resident of a Slave State. He placed the whites and blacks on an equality as to pay and rations. No man who knows the history of the country would dare deny the truth of this statement. This being the fact, were they to be lectured here to-day for doing what JACKSON did? No; the good sense and patriotism of the people were as prevalent now as during the war of 1812. The blacks were physically equal to the whites; and this was apparent and well known.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, (Union,) did not see any particular reason for excitement. He knew certain gentlemen on the other side who were interested in the institution of Slavery would become excited; therefore it was not surprising to him. It was the last convulsive throe of the struggle he had seen for the last twenty years of those who dominated this nation, whom he never expected to see conquered, but hoped to live to see subdued. The groans of the dying and the last agonies of death they witnessed to-day. He did not reproach these gentlemen for the natural convulsive effort to preserve Slavery, which he witnessed to-day. The question was whether all the soldiers who wore the uniform of the Union and marched under its banner in common with the Army of the Union, and who exposed themselves to battle and death, should be placed on an equality; or whether we were to keep up an unjust distinction. He despised such a distinction between troops in the day of death and battle. Why should they not be paid and clothed alike? Why should they not for an equal reason make a distinction between the soldiers of different nationalities? The colored troops had fought as gallantly and died as freely as their white brethren at Fort Wagner and other places. Mr. HOLMAN would not dare deny it. Universal history showed that they had fought as gallantly and bravely as the white men at their side, and yet this infamous and degrading distinction was to be kept up. Let not the nation for a moment sanction it. Let it not go forth as the opinion of this body that colored soldiers are worth no more to be treated like other men who perilled their lives in their country's defence. He admired the conduct of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Regiment, who refused to take ten dollars per month, and who mustered from their own soil with a magnanimity which would do credit to the best men in Indiana.

Mr. KELLEY, of Pennsylvania, (Union,) referred to historical facts to show that the first blood shed in Massachusetts prior to the battle of Lexington, was that of PETER FRANCISCUS, a negro man, who headed the Boston mob, and was the first killed during this rebellion, shed in the streets of Baltimore, was that of a negro named NICHOLAS BIDDLE, who was a follower of less than five hundred men. This might be a mere coincidence. But certainly here were two facts which it became a body of men who believed all men were created free and equal, to bear in mind; and it should do something to remove the prejudices which had cursed us within the last three years. Mr. HOLMAN had told the House that negroes never should have been enlisted. Did he not know that we had now 130,000 negro soldiers to fight the rebels who were in arms against our brothers and friends? Were the gentleman's sympathies with white men, with the rebels, against the country? Such opposition could come from no other motive.

Among other things, Mr. KELLEY alluded to the cheers from the white soldiers which greeted the colored troops which recently marched through the streets with BURNSIDE'S corps. The rebels murder our black soldiers. They turn to you and cite you as witnesses of the propriety of their conduct. We say the rebels treat them with cruelty, and yet we refuse to give them the equality which their services demand. They cannot fight without pay. It is a disgrace, and our children will blush for us with shame in the future.

Mr. PERSHING, of New-Hampshire, (Union,) said the record of Massachusetts was so full of patriotic deeds that she could well afford to have New-Hampshire the glory which belonged to her. The first man whose blood was shed in the rebellion, in Baltimore, was enlisted in Massachusetts, but he was a native of New-Hampshire, and his remains now reposed in Alexandria, in his district, in that State.

Mr. HOLMAN offered an amendment to increase the pay of soldiers to $20 per month after Jan. 1, 1864, with a corresponding increase of pay to non-commissioned officers.

Mr. STEVENS said that amendment was not pertinent to the pay of the regular army.

The Speaker sustained the objection.

Mr. HOLMAN took an appeal from the decision, when the Speaker was sustained by laying the appeal upon the table—Yeas, 98; Nays, 35.

Mr. SCHENCK, of Ohio, (Union,) offered an amendment to the pending Senate amendment, making the equalization of pay commence on the 1st of May instead of JANUARY.

This was disagreed to—86 against 85.

Mr. HOLMAN moved to strike out the word pay.

This was rejected—82 against 83.

The House then agreed to the Senate's amendment about the equality of pay, etc., by yeas 81, nays 66.

YEAS—Messrs. Alley, Allison, Ames, Anderson, Arnold, Baldwin of Massachusetts, Baxter, Bingham, Blaine, Blair of Western Virginia, Blow, Boutwell, Boyd, Brandegee, Brownell, Cobb, Cole, Cresswell, Davis of Maryland, Denison, Dennison, Dixon, Donnelly, Driggs, Eckley, Eliot, Farnsworth, Fenton, Frank, Gardner, Grimell, Grinnell, Grider, Higby, Hooper, Hotchkiss, Hubbard of Iowa, Hubbard of Connecticut, Hulburd, Jenckes, Julian, Kelly, Kasson, Kellogg of Michigan, Kellogg of New-York, Lehman, Loan, Longyear, Marvin, McClurg, McIndoe, Miller of New-York, Morehead, Morrill, Morris of New-York, Ames Myers, Norton, Odell, O'Neill of Ohio, Orth, Patterson, Perham, Pomeroy, Price, Randall of Pennsylvania, Rice of Massachusetts, Rice of Maine, Rollins of New-Hampshire, Sargent, Schenck, Scott, Shannon, Smith of Illinois, Stevens, Thayer, Upson, Washburne of Illinois, Washburne of Massachusetts, Whitemer, Wilder, Wilson, Windom—81.

NAYS—Messrs. James C. Allen, Ancona, Baxter, Brown of West Virginia, Chanler, Cox, Dawson, Denison, Eden, Eldridge, Finck, Grider, Hall, Harding, Harrison, Harris of Illinois, Herrick, Holman, Ketcham, King, Kasson, Law, Lazear, Leblond, Long, Marcy, McDowell, McKinney, Miller of Pennsylvania, Morris of Ohio, Morrison, Noble, O'Neill of Pennsylvania, Perry, Robinson, Rollins of Missouri, Ross, Scott, Smith, Steele of New-York, Stiles, Strouse, Sweat, Thomas, Wadsworth, Wall, Wheeler, White, Wood, Yeaman—48.

The Senate's amendments to the Army Appropriation Bill were all agreed to, including the following:

All persons of color who have been or may be mustered into the military service of the United States shall receive the same uniform, clothing, arms, equipments, camp equipage, rations, medical and hospital attendance, pay and emoluments, other than bounty, as other soldiers in the regular or volunteer forces of the United States, of the like arm of the service, from and after the 1st of January, 1864, and that every person of color who shall hereafter be mustered into the service shall receive the same amount of bounty as the President shall order in the different States or parts of States, not exceeding one hundred dollars.

Any colored person enlisted and mustered into the service as a volunteer under the call of October 7, 1863, for 300,000 men, who was at the time of enlistment enrolled and subject to draft in the State in which he volunteered, shall receive from the United States the same amount of bounty as was paid white soldiers under said call, not exceeding in any case one hundred dollars.

All free persons of color who have been or may be mustered into the military service shall, from the date of their enlistment, receive the same uniform, clothing, arms, equipments, camp equipage, rations, medical and hospital attendance, pay, emoluments and bounty, as others of the regular or volunteer forces of the like arm of service, and all enlistments in the regular army may be for the term of three years.

The House then, at 4½ o'clock, took a recess until 7 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

To-night was set apart for the purpose of "speech-making."

Although a majority of the House voted for the recess, not more than twenty members were present at the "Evening Session."

Mr. THAYER, of Pennsylvania, in the course of his speech, said that Slavery had impaired the moral sense of the Southern people, and State Sovereignty corrupted their political faith; and both combined drove them into the desperate war now being waged. Both evils must be exterminated before the country can be restored to peace and prosperity. The Democrats use this same doctrine of State Sovereignty in their opposition to the Administration.

Mr. YEAMAN, of Kentucky, said the question discussed was what is called the Reconstruction Bill. He was unable to see that they had the power to fix the laws and institutions of States that may be in rebellion. It was inexpedient thus to legislate while the wager of battle hangs in doubt. He proceeded to inquire what ails the Government, the result of his argument being to show that there could be no reconstruction without more fruitful military successes.

The House then adjourned.

# LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

## Quarantine Reform.

The merchants of New-York will be gratified to know that the new Health Officer has commenced his duties in a manner which commends him to their confidence. Freedom of all well persons arriving in infected vessels from the restraints of Quarantine; the immediate removal of all sick persons from infected vessels to airy hospitals, and the speedy disinfection and release of all vessels and goods subject to Quarantine are the special purposes of a well-conducted establishment of this kind. The Health Officer is making arrangements, as far as practicable, in the absence of appropriate warehouses and hospitals, for the perfection of these special objects of Quarantine. The unreliable fumigations in vessels infected with yellow fever, which have hitherto been a tax upon merchants of a dollar a pitch, and which cause still more costly detentions, are henceforth discarded. An abundant supply of *pure air* together with *extreme degrees of heat and cold*, have long been appreciated as nature's great disinfectants.

Parties at great expense of time and money are perfecting appliances by which these great disinfectants are to be obtained, and the Health Officer after consultation with the scientific world hereabouts, has signified his willingness to give these important agents a *full and thorough trial*, so far as is consistent with public interest and safety. It is known the world over, that for many years forced ventilation has been the most valuable element of the hygiene of hospitals, while it is at the present time an important desideratum in the hygiene of monitors. All vessels, indeed, from the very nature of their structure, are much more prone to infection in consequence of confined air than is possible to any well-constructed house; yet so far as we know, forced ventilation has never been adopted in any quarantine establishment. Extremes degrees of temperature, while they are admitted to be the most powerful disinfectants known, have never, until the present time, been utilized as an important part of the appliances of quarantine, and while they promise for merchants and shipowners the greatest dispatch in releasing them from the obstacles hitherto imposed upon commerce, they also promise immunity to the public from the fatal consequences incident to unreliable fumigations of infected vessels.

## Something Gained.

The Legislature had the advantage of the presence and influence of a number of our leading citizens while the TAX BILL was pending, and we are glad to record important improvements in the bill which are due to that influence. The Brooklyn charter, which has worked so well in preventing waste, regards the city authorities as mere trustees for the taxpayers, and strictly accountable for any breach of that trust, and the humblest taxpayer can lay an injunction on any corrupt or lavish expenditure. This is now incorporated in the Tax Bill for this City. The Mayor is also invested with more power to check extravagant legislation, and the departments are required to give out expensive work by contract. The street cleaning is to be contracted for, and the expense limited to $300 000. It is thought that a much less sum will suffice.

Heretofore considerable sums have been foisted into the tax levy during the hurry of the close of the Legislature, and this year doubtless would have been repeated, but it was not deemed wise to attempt it in the presence of the friends of retrenchment and reform. The transfer of appropriations to objects different from those designated, which enabled officials to employ the public funds at pleasure, is now forbidden. Perhaps the best result of the effort of the Citizens' Association is the conviction—forced upon many who have stood aloof from such matters—that, if we would have economy and fair dealing in municipal expenditure, the citizens must themselves take an interest in probing the conduct of the authorities, searching out dishonesty and waste, withholding money not needed for good government, and putting in office none but upright and prudent men. Heretofore all has been left to the cliques of politicians who live on the City treasury. They chose the authorities, fixed the tax rate and spent the revenues. The taxpayers paid the money demanded, and groaned under the ever-increasing burden—but that was all. A new order of things has been inaugurated, and henceforth the citizens who desire good government and moderate taxes will understand that they can have these things by taking the matter into their own hands, and working for them with a resolute and untiring zeal. Enough has been accomplished by a few weeks' labor of the Citizens' Association to assure us that a complete reformation in the City and County Government is practicable.

# GENERAL CITY NEWS.

MUTINY ON BOARD A BRITISH BARK.—ONE OF THE MUTINEERS KILLED.—The British bark *Camperdown*, Capt. JAMES A. DUNN, from Palermo, arrived at this port yesterday, with several of the crew in irons, they having mutinied. The names of the mutineers are Theodore Stoip, William Denink, Henry Kilting, John Braken and Otto Kroll. From the statement of Capt. Dunn, it appears that the prisoners and another named FREDERAND FREDERICK mutinied on the 16th of March last, and after threatening the captain's life, and also that of the second mate, they refused to obey orders from their superior officers. Soon after, an assault was made on the captain, and he was thrown to the deck of his vessel by the mutineers. The second mate interfered to save his own life, and in the struggle FREDERICK was shot by the mate, and died two hours after, from the effects of the wounds. Braken was also shot in the arm, but the injuries are not serious. On the arrival of the bark in port, she was boarded by Officer HARVEY, of the Harbor Police, who arrested the refractory sailors and took them before Justice HOGAN, at the Tombs, who committed them for trial.

ARREST OF A DISHONEST SERVANT.—Some months since the wife of Mr. AARON F. WILSON, residing in Westchester County, just beyond the Harlem Bridge, died of typhoid fever, and was followed soon after by her daughter. The goods in the house were packed up and the house placed in charge of a servant girl, EMMA SUTARD, in whom the utmost confidence had been placed. Subsequently it was discovered that a large amount of property was missing, and the matter of RETROSPECTIVE was placed in the hands of Detective HARVEY. He visited the premises, took a survey of the parties there and then absconded, and soon came to the conclusion that EMMA was the guilty party. He requested an interview with her, which resulted in her confession of guilt. Some fifteen hundred dollars' worth of goods were recovered, some in the house of a German near by; one bagful of silk dresses was found in the bottom of a potato barrel; the potatoes were thrown over the top. Other articles were found buried in the cellar of Mr. WILSON'S house, and others secreted in EMMA'S bed. She was arrested and taken before Justice HOGAN, who committed her for trial.

DARING ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP A RAILCAR.—A report was made yesterday at Police Headquarters by Capt. CARPENTER, of the Fifteenth Precinct, that some persons had placed an infernal machine on the track of the Sixth-avenue Railroad, below Fourteenth-street. The supposition is that it was the intention to blow up the first car that should pass. The machine consisted of a small tin box filled with powder, and inside of this box there were very insidiously placed three gun-nipples, all of which were capped. The box was so placed on the track that the car in passing, would crush the caps, and thereby explode the powder. A car going up passed over the box, which exploded with a loud report. The passengers, though much frightened, were not injured. Officer LEWIS, of the Fifteenth Precinct, in making an examination, found the remnants of the box on the pavement. No clue has been obtained as to the perpetrator.

IN MEDIS AMBOES.—On Friday night, the attention of Detectives FARLEY and DOWNEY was attracted to a couple, on Broadway, one of whom appeared to be a female in male dress. They arrested the twain, and took them to headquarters, where they were locked up over night, and taken to the Tombs yesterday afternoon, where after a reprimand, they were discharged. The girl gave her name as KATE CASEY, and had made the acquaintance of the man in a barber's saloon, where she had gone to have her hair cut; and where her sex was recognized. She stated that she was anxious to visit No. 446 Broadway, but as they admitted no ladies without gentlemen, she had adopted the male garb in order to procure a ticket. It is said that she was employed at one of the dancing of this establishment, and through this foreign garb, sought to feast her eyes upon him.

FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLUMBIAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.—The fifty-eighth anniversary of the above society was held on Friday evening at the Academy of Music, and was attended by a very large and respectable audience. President CHARLES KING presided. Rev. C. E. DUTTON opened the exercises with prayer. The President of the society, Mr. J. A. GESSENHEIMER, A. M., delivered the opening address, after which an address on "Our House" was delivered by GEORGE G. KIP; "A Retrospect," by GEORGE G. DEWEES, Jr.; "Gipsey Life," (tableaux,) and addresses by MOSES D. GOTT, A. C. MERTIAM, Henry SEDDIE, Jr., Howard OSTERHOUD, A. E. VALENTINE, Langdon GREENWOOD, A. M., and William C. BIANE, A. M.

RECEPTION OF A NEW HOSE-CARRIAGE.—On Thursday evening last, City Hose Company No. 6 received their new carriage. It is a very beautiful one; made by VAN NESS and painted by JAMES MILLER. The running gear, reels and body are black and gold, and on the front box is painted a fine portrait of Engineer BLACKFAN. The signal-lamps are very handsomely cut, and the metal work heavily silver-plated. The company celebrated the arrival of their carriage by a grand reception at their house, in Liberty-street. Assistant Engineer KINGSLAND, Foreman G. J. OAK, and Assistant Foremen WM. CONGER, of No. 42 Steamer Engine, and numerous other distinguished officers of the New-York Fire Department were present.

DEATHS FROM BURNS.—An inquest was held yesterday by Coroner COLLIN, at the Bellevue Hospital, on the body of CATHARINE CONNOR, a native of Ireland, aged 28 years, who died from burns accidentally received by her clothes taking fire at No. 56 West Forty-first-street, on Friday.... The same Coroner held an inquest at No. 44 Governeur-street, on the body of JAMES CLOSIN, a lad 5½ years of age, who died from the effects of burns accidentally received by falling into a pan of boiling pitch at the foot of Clinton-street. Deceased was going backward toward the fire when he stumbled and fell into the boiling pitch.

REMOVAL OF DEAD BODIES FROM THE CITY.—A notice has been issued by the City Inspector, unpleasing to ferry-masters, railroad conductors, steamboat captains and others engaged in the transportation business, that he will prosecute to the full extent of the law every violation of the ordinance forbidding the carrying from the City the body of any deceased person, without written permission of the Department. The penalty is two hundred and fifty dollars. The ordinance embraces all dead bodies, whether of persons dying here or in transit to some other place. The necessity of this measure to prevent the concealment of crime is obvious.

A HACK DRIVER ARRESTED FOR POCKET-PICKING.—JOHN BERNAN was yesterday brought before Justice LEWTON, at the Jefferson Market Police Court, on the charge of having picked the pocket of ANDREW DEVINGSKEY, of a pocket book containing $16 in Treasury notes. The victim employed BERNAN to convey her from the Broadway Garden to her residence No. 111 Avenue A. During the ride thither, BERNAN got another man to drive and he went inside the coach, and while there he picked ANDREW'S pocket. He was held to answer in the sum of $1,000.

SHIP LAUNCH.—The propeller steamship *Norse*, 1,400 tons burden, was launched in splendid style on Saturday afternoon last, from the yard of Messrs. VAN DUSEN & BROTHERS, at the foot of Sixteenth-street, East River. She is designed for passenger and freight business between New-York and Providence. This vessel will have two direct action vertical engines of 44 inches cylinder and 26 inches stroke. The engines were designed by Mr. ETHAN ALLEN, of this City, and built by the Detroit (Michigan) Locomotive Works.

THE METROPOLITAN POLICE SOLDIERS' AID FUND.—A meeting of the delegates to the Fund Committee for the relief of families of policemen enlisted in the Metropolitan Brigade, was held on Saturday afternoon. From the report of the Treasurer it appears that 44 families are receiving $20 each per month. Mr. BETHEL, the late Treasurer, resigning his position, DAN. CARPENTER, Esq., was elected in his place, and a vote of thanks given to the retiring Treasurer.

RAILROADS THROUGH THE BATTERY.—Preparations are being made to lay the tracks of two of the railroads running to South Ferry through the Battery grounds.


HERRING'S Patent Champion Fire-proof Safes, and HERRING & FLOYD'S Patent Crystallized Iron—the only material which cannot be drilled—at No. 251 Broadway New-York.


## Passengers Arrived.

APRIL 30.—*In steamship Saxonia, from Hamburg, &c.*—Leo, Ash, San Francisco; Leop. S. Feuchtwanger, Cincinnati; Morris C. Feuchtwanger, Cincinnati; Chr. G. Reikel, New-York; Wm. McAlpin, California; H. C. Henriel, Brooklyn; A. Lippmann, Brooklyn; S. Engels, Mrs. and Miss May, children and servant; A. Iglauer, Bk. Ackerman, Mr. Puppenheimer, Mrs. Dreyfus and children, Mrs. Lesser and child, Mrs. Minna v. Heidemann, New-York; Mrs. Lina Becker, New-York; L. Kocsan, Mr. and Mrs. Stern, Mr. and Mrs. Levison and nurse, G. Jansen, Mr. and Mrs. Frauenfelder, A. Leslie, Pennsylvania; Kreby Lieb, Chicago; Herm. Lisse, do.; S. Rothschild, Detroit; S. Levi, do.; J. Ellenfeld, Michigan; Mich. Faber, Chicago; Gottl. Eisner, St. Louis; Bisle Lestler, do.; Hyrolite Cartier, Havre; Frieder. Miesbwitz, Texas; Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Gerard, Wisconsin; Fred. McAlpin, San Francisco; Thos. McAlpin, San Francisco; Robert McAlpin, San Francisco; Pasquale Felix, California; Pietro Felix, California; Carl Schmeckle, Pennsylvania; Dr. Schmeckle, Cincinnati; John Fries and son, Texas; Mr. and Mrs. F. Hertig, children and infant Missouri; J. G. Rothweiler, St. Louis; Wm. Hohenschild, St. Louis; Chas. Eide, Calvin Jos. Salick, Wisconsin; Henry Ebbot, Wisconsin; Rev. John Hahnes, Cincinnati; H. Ferwerding, Cincinnati; G. Hannegger, Cincinnati; Max Cannenbender, St. Louis; Xaver Hingwald, St. Louis; M. Speth, St. Louis; Th. Krueger, St. Louis;